Local Groups Protest Panther Trial

First of many courthouse demonstrations by New Haveners: End the Trial!

by Liz and Harry Henderson

New Haven is the center of a storm of public criticism which has been mounting against the police and court treatment of members of the Black Panther Party, on trial here on several charges, including murder and conspiracy.

As this issue goes to press, plans have been completed for a series of demonstrations, workshops, and teach-ins for the weekend of May 1–3 in New Haven. Many local organizations have issued statements criticizing press and court treatment of the case. Students at local high schools and colleges are caught up in the growing wave of protest about the trial. In the past few weeks, the cause of a fair trial for the Panthers has grown from a small unpopular campaign to a broad movement.

Many New Haveners, however, do not understand why the trial has generated so much publicity.

The Black Panther Party, in a recent statement, described the trial as an act of political repression disguised as a murder trial: 'The Black Panther Party is being attacked because they're telling the truth, and the truth scares America's rulers. The Panthers tell the truth about capitalism and racism: how a few people profit from it while most of us suffer.' The party has often repeated its claim that it is not engaged in a racial struggle, but in a struggle of the poor against the very rich rulers of the United States. They point out that their slogan, 'All power to the people', refers to all working people, both black and white.

The police, including the FBI and local New Haven police, have attacked the Panthers as a threat to the nation and to the city. J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI, said in his recent annual report: 'The Black Panther Party without question represents the greatest threat to the internal security of the country.'

Much of the public confusion surrounding the case and the growing public criticism of the way it has been handled concerns the issue of violence. Police claim that the Panthers are armed and dangerous to the community. The Panthers respond that they are only a armed in self-defense. In a recent speech, the Field Captain of the New Haven party, Doug [illegible] said: "It's come down to the situation in America where Black people have to begin to pick up guns just to exercise our rights

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MODERN TIMES

VOL. I NO. 1 NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT MAY 1, 1970 20¢

Layoffs Hit Conn. Hard

by John Mendeloff

President Nixon's policy of increasing unemployment to stop inflation is only half-working. Unemployment is zooming up, but prices keep rising as fast as ever. The result: the American worker is worse off than ever.

The national unemployment rate is now 4.4%, which means that 3.7 million people are out of work, an increase of one million people during the last year.

In Connecticut the rate is 4.6% which means that 62,000 people are out of work, an increase of 12,000 people in the last three months.

Defense Cutbacks Widespread

A higher percentage of Connecticut citizens are engaged in military production than in any other state. Last year employment at United Aircraft (U.A.), the state's biggest employer, dropped by 5 000 workers. In March, the Sikorsky Division of U.A. in Stratford announced the layoff of 350 workers in the office and engineering sections.

Employment at Avco in Stratford, a major producer of helicopter engines, declined by 2 100 people since June, 1968. In January and February, Avco laid off 380 white collar workers.

The Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics in Groton dismissed 500 employees as part of its series of cutbacks.

In the Waterbury area, over 1000 workers are losing their jobs as another military project ends. The companies involved are U.S. Time, General Time, and Scoville.

The prospect that 4000 Uniroyal employees in Naugatuck will lose their jobs makes the situation in the Waterbury area especially severe.

The 200 people who work for the Hat Corporation of America in Norwalk are losing jobs as that plant shuts down.

Job Losses at Olin

The work force at the Olin Corporation, one of New Haven's largest employers, declined by over 1000 during 1969. Most of the people laid off in the ammunition department after the long strike have still not been called back. A new ammo contract may bring them back to work by August.

Meanwhile, smaller layoffs are facing workers in many of the departments which produce arms.

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MORE EVERY DAY: Workers on strike greet their friends.

Women Want Childcare

by Three New Haven Women

Women in New Haven are angry about the serious lack of childcare facilities in this city. Women are getting together to do something about this situation.

There are only 10 full time day care centers for pre-school children, 20 Headstart programs where 3-5 year olds can go for only part of the day and 12 half-time private nurseries. These programs are for pre-schoolers only, leaving the parents of younger and older children to fend for themselves. With day care available only to the poor (i.e. Headstart) and the very rich (nurseries 2 mornings a week costing up to $300 for ten months), the needs of many women and children are totally ignored.

Conference and Children

A conference with speakers, workshops and films is being planned by New Haven women for the weekend of May 8, 9 at Edgewood Congregational Church, 150 Dwight Street, New Haven. (Starting time: 10:00 a.m.) On Monday, May 11, a lunch-time "child-in" will take place at Yale's Beinecke Plaza to demand that day-care facilities for 500 children be provided by Yale University as a first step in meeting the needs for childcare in all of New Haven. The conference and child-in are being sponsored by New Haven Women's Liberation and the Yale Non-Faculty Action Committee.

Louise Gross, who is at present organizaing community childcare in Jamaica, N.Y. and Kurt Schmoke, who has attempted to start a small child care center at Yale will speak Friday, May 8, at 8 p.m. The speakers will be followed by questions, discussion and several short films on such topics as getting funds and community support for child care, child care for elementary age children and the problems of raising children.

Workshops will start at 10 a.m. Saturday and continue through the afternoon. They will be open discussions on the need for childcare, alternatives to the family, the funding, control, and curriculum of day care centers and day care in other countries. Later in the afternoon, three action workshops will be scheduled on how to contain day care at Yale, day care in the community, and communal living.

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Education Budget Faces Heavy Criticism

by Tim Craine

The Board of Education's proposed budget of $26.7 million for fiscal year 1970-71 has come under severe criticism from individuals and groups concerned about education.

New Haven Federation of Teachers President Charles Leak proposed at the Board's public hearing that the budget be doubled. The budget presented by the Board does not include salary increases, which are in the process of negotiation. Furthermore, the budget makes no provision for the increase in staff which would arise from Federation proposals for reduced class size and increase in teacher aides and other "para-professionals" and an increase in the number of special services personnel per pupil. The latter category includes guidance counselors, psychological examiners, reading specialists and social workers.

A key demand of the Federation at the bargaining table is the More Effective Schools Program which provides the added staff to upgrade the quality of education, particularly at the elementary level. "The big issue," according to Mr. Leak, will be the number of schools in which the program is implemented. "We are asking for a More Effective Schools Program in every school. This may be visionary, but this is what the children of New Haven need," he added.

Funds from Yale

When asked where the additional funds would come from for his proposal of a doubled budget, Mr. Leak did not place the burden on higher property taxes. He said, "We could start by making Yale pay its fair share of taxes. In addition we should press for all the Federal money we can get. We know that the establishment has the money somewhere; it is up to them to produce."

The Federation and other groups have often criticized the school system for being top heavy with highly-paid administrators to the neglect of classroom teachers. This is reflected in the Board's proposed budget which allocates nearly $2 million for principals, supervisors, and central administrative staff, almost one-fifth of the $10.4 million for classroom teachers.

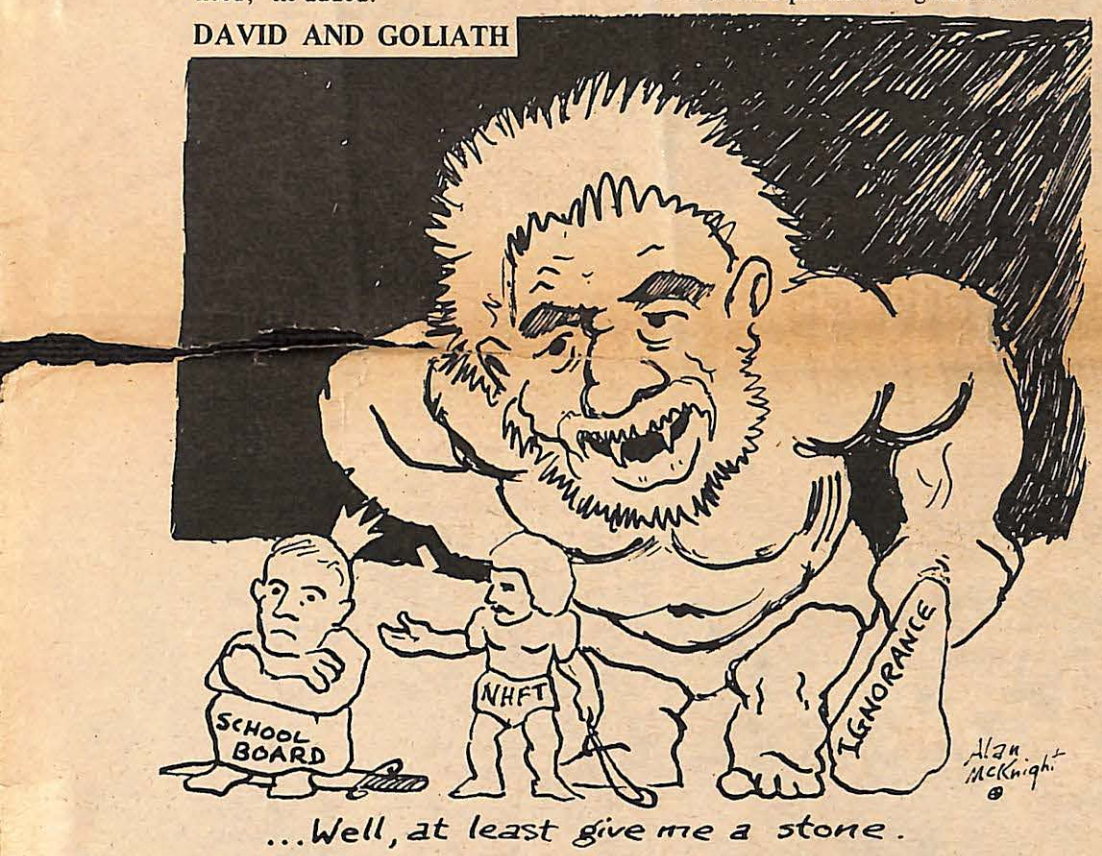
Mr. Robert Sams, director of the United Newhallville Organizations criticized the lack of community involvement in the preparation of the budget. One specific item which he singled out is tne $400,000 allocated for substitute teachers. "Rather than offering (or saving) jobs for bored Yale wives and drop-out college students, it makes more sense to hire mothers and fathers to fill this role." These people, with a greater understanding of the community from which the children come, would provide for greater continuity in the educational process, Mr. Sams contends. In addition, he noted that the proposed budget makes no provision for the present para-professional staff, who are currently earning $3 200 per year, which is less than substitute teachers.

Parker Criticizes Cuts

Mr. Henry Parker, former mayoralty candidate, supported the budget as prepared by the Board of Education, while criticizing Mayor Guida for cutting the final budget recommendation from $26.7 million to $23 million. Mr. Parker proposed rallying neighborhood groups and business organizations to restore the budget cut and give "priority" to education.

Last week, the Board of Finance of the city of New Haven approved the Board of Education's budget but with cuts across the board. The budget is now before the Board of Aldermen for final approval. The Board of Aldermen can not restore any funds to the budget, only make more cuts. After their final approval, the budget will go back to the Board of Education, which will determine what specific parts of the budget will be cut back, probably mostly personnel additions. No further public hearings have been scheduled.

DAVID AND GOLIATH



...Well, at least give me a stone.

May 5 Primary

by Matt Borenstein

In New Haven on May 5 there will be a primary election in the Democratic Party. Everyone registered in the Democratic Party can vote for a slate of delegates to the Congressional Nominating Convention. In some wards, there will be voting for Democratic Town Committee Members. Voting for the delegates to the Democratic Congressional Nominating Convention will take place in all wards. Thayer Baldwin, Jr., who is running for the Democratic Party nomination for Congress against incumbent Robert Giamo, is trying to get delegate votes to use at the convention.

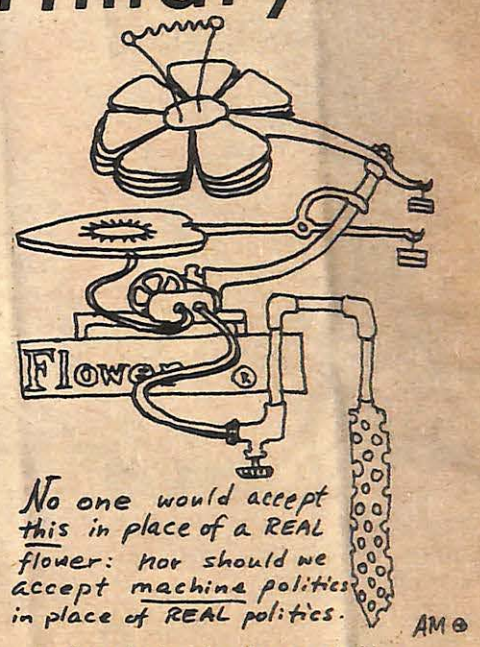
In Connecticut there are no direct primaries for offices higher than municipal office. For offices like U.S. Representative, U.S. Senator, or Governor a candidate must get at least 20% of the nominating convention vote in order to run in a primary. Thus, for Baldwin to run in a primary against Giaimo, he must get 20% of the votes at the Third Congressional District Convention. There are 130 delegates to that convention. Baldwin would need at least 26 votes. If he wins the primary for New Haven's 34 delegates, a primary against Giaimo is then possible.

The slate of delegates pledged to Baldwin is running against a slate of delegates chosen by the Democratic Town Committee. The Town Committee, chaired by Arthur T. Barbieri for the last 18 years, controls all local party nominations including the Town Committee. It is commonly called the "Party Machine." The slate of delegates chosen by the town committee is obviously pledged to vote for Giaimo.

Each of New Haven's 30 wards has two representatives to the Democratic Town Committee. There will be primary elections for members of the Democratic Town Committee in seven of the wards (1,4,18,21,23,25). In six of the seven wards (all except 25) one of the primary candidates is backed by the Democratic Alliance. The Democratic Alliance is the ongoing umbrella organization continuing from the Henry Parker mayoralty campaign last fall. The Democratic Alliance presently has Democratic Town Committee seats in five wards (1,2,18,19,22). If they all win all the ward primaries, they will have control over four State Assembly Nominations and one State Senate nomination at the end of the summer. The Alliance includes the Democratic Reform Movement and the Caucus of Connecticut Democrats (both are reform groups from the McCarthy campaign in 1968), Progressive Democrates (a Dixwell area reform group), and the Aldermanic Council (a group of seven Aldermen who backed the Parker campaign last fall).

Machine Vs. Reform

Both the Congressional delegate primary and the Town Committee primary are attempts to take the nominating power away from the "party machine." This "reform" effort has been going on since 1968.


Flower
No one would accept this in place of a REAL flower: nor should we accept machine politics in place of REAL politics.
AM

The object of "reform" is to open up the nominating procedure to all the party members by challenging the "machine" candidates in a primary. For example, in April of 1968 there was a primary that challenged the Democratic Town Committee's slate of delegates to the State Democratic Convention. That challenge was part of the "McCarthy for President" campaign in New Haven. The state Convention selects delegates to the National Convention as well as candidates for U.S. Senator and Governor.

Last fall the New Haven Democratic Town Committee selected Bart Guida as candidate for mayor. Subsequently, Henry Parker, John Daniels, and Charles Gill challenged that endorsement in a primary election.

State-wide Offices

Emilio Daddario, U.S. Representative from Connecticut's First Congressional District (Hartford area) has the Democratic nomination for governor sewn up. The U.S. Senate nomination is still a mad scramble amongst Dodd, Marcus, Duffy, Donahue, and possibly former fourth District Congressman Donald Irwin. It is possible that the state convention may not be able to choose a candidate from the above contenders without splitting the Democratic Party in Connecticut.

Issues Secondary

The process by which candidates are chosen in the major parties is complicated and difficult. Issues and programs seem to be secondary to considerations of party machinery in the selection of candidates for elective office. It is easier to run as an independent candidate in Connecticut than to go through the primary-convention-primary route.

People can listen to the speeches of candidates in primaries as well as regular elections. But the nomination process is in the hands of the politicians and so far removed from the people that it's usually too late to make a real choice at election time.

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MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get that kind of news in commercial papers run for profit. There is no place else where the work and play of people who aren't rich is considered important enough to write about. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working women and men are told by them instead of by their bosses. There is no place else where the hunger, bad housing and education, lack of health care and police harrassment that people live with is told by them.

We live in the richest country in the world. But only a few people get to use most of this wealth for themselves. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. Then there would be no need to strike for a few more crumbs, waste our resources and labor on rockets and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need—not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement (AIM) has been working since 1966 to get people together against the rich, powerful few who run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, day care centers, recreation areas, decent health care and decent jobs.

STAFF: Joelle Dominski, Peter O'Connell, David Adams, John Mendeloff, Rick Wolff, Florie Ricciuti, John Moulder, Liz Henderson, Matt Borenstein, Art Fleischner, Neal Beck, Alan McKnight, Virginia Blaisdell, Alan Kay, Cathy Forman, Diane Eggleston, Susan Schachter, Mike Sand, Joan Dimow. Dick Whelan, Lew Haberly, Joan Vermuelen.

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Working Women Meet May 2,3

by Joan Vermeulen

America lives in a dream world so far as our lot as women is concerned. The ideal, according to advertising and TV is the woman at home, as housewife and mother. That's the myth, but the truth is a lot different. We make up 40% of the work force, but, since we aren't thought of as real workers, our problems on the job are ignored.

Most of the jobs we get are dead-end. The responsibility is minimal—the wages are lousy. We work as secretaries. We type letters, add columns of figures, take dictation, make phone calls, do everything but wipe our boss's nose. We are treated as if we had no minds or feelings.

We work in fabrics, we work hard, and we go home from the shop and make dinner, clean house, and take care of their kids. Since there are no child-care centers, if we have young kids, we have to work a different shift from our husbands. So we never get to see our husbands except on weekends, and that makes for a lot of tension. Nowhere in any factory do we get paid what we are worth.

Women are getting together all over the country to change this. We are forming our own unions, women's caucuses in regular unions, and women's liberation groups, to share our experiences and work together for better lives.

One opportunity for women to get together will be taking place this weekend in Boston. A working women's conference will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, at the University of Massachusetts, to give women a chance to talk together about our own problems—like child-care, worker responsibility and control, self-defense, and women's role in the labor movement. For more information, contact New Haven Women's Liberation at 562-3985.

Reasons for Armstrong Wildcat

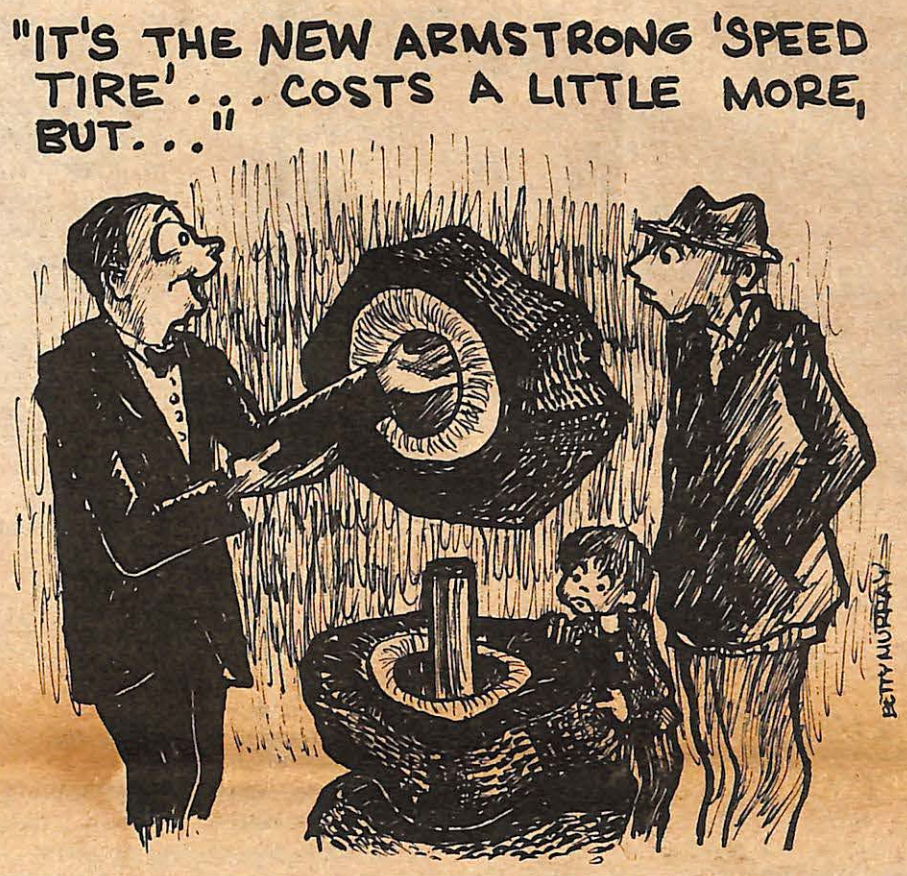
As the July deadline on the United Rubber Workers' Contract at Armstrong nears, discontent with working conditions continues. These conditions led to a nine-day wildcat strike in January, started by 150 workers in the fire building department. The company told the newspapers that the workers had struck to protest the suspension of two workers. But that wasn't the real reason.

Several months before the company brought in a couple of "efficiency experts" from Akron, Ohio. Their job was to squeeze out more production. To do that, they also had to try to weaken the union. Local 93 of the United Rubber Workers is known as one of the strongest unions in the state. First, Armstrong fired off a letter to the International Union claiming that the workers were on a slowdown. The union pointed out that the workers were meeting their quotas and hadn't lost any pay.

Then the company men began their harrassment.

In the mill, where the workers have to work with hot rubber, the company said it would no longer provide them with leather gloves, instead, it would give them cotton gloves. The problem with cotton gloves is that the hot rubber sticks to them. And when the rubber goes through the next machine, your arm might go with it. After a lot of protests, the company finally provided new leather gloves.

In the heat treating room the contract says that, if one man is called into work, then every worker in the department gets 4 hours pay. The company simply refused to follow the contract and did not give people the 4 hours pay. After several grievances the company was again forced back into line.



Tire Department

The company gave a lot of flak to the people in the tire department. They work on incentive and have always been able to set their own pace. But now the foreman says they can't take a break.

Lots of things can go wrong with a tire-building machine. When the machine is not working right, you're supposed to stop the machine, clock-out, and call a mechanic. Now the company is starting arbitrarily to discipline people for "excessive clock-outs." It picks on the union militants, not necessarily the people with the most down-time.

The company's crackdown is very rough on the inexperienced tire-builder, who hasn't been on the job long enough to be sure whether bad tires are the result of his own mistakes or the machine. The company's new policy makes him afraid to clock-out, even though he may be producing bad tires because of the machine.

Quality has suffered from another of Armstrong's new policies. Before, when a mechanic came to fix the machine he stayed around to check the first few tires to make sure his adjustments were right. Now the company is so anxious to keep production rolling full-speed that the mechanic cannot stay with the operator to readjust the machine.

Another practice the company is trying to change involves pay on breakdowns. When your machine is down, you receive 85% of your average pay. Suppose your machine breaks after 3 hours of work but after you have turned out 4 hours worth of production. The company now does not want to pay the 85% downtime pay until your hours of work and production are even.

Grievance Procedure

When the company is so eager to harass people, it is hard to protect them through the grievance procedure. That takes time, and while you are winning one grievance, the company is forcing another.

For example, breaking a machine is a discharge offense, yet the company never has any proof and could never win a case. But what it does is suspend people, hoping to get away with it because, by the time the grievance is processed, the suspension is over. The union does fight this practice, of course, but the suspension serves the company's purpose of intimidating workers.

At many plants workers who participate in wildcats are fired. At Armstrong the only penalty is a three-day suspension. Why? Solidarity is strong, and the company knows that if it fires one person, everyone will walk out until that man or woman is back. The workers are helped by the fact that many of the jobs at Armstrong require long training and skills that are scarce around here.

The workers decided that they could only take so much. Rather than have everyone walk out together, they decided that the tire-builders would walk out first. As the wildcat continued, some of the other 800 union members were laid off. Those laid off received supplementary unemployment benefits (SUB) equal to about 85% of their wages.

The workers returned when they thought the company had had enough time (and lost enough money) to reconsider its policy of harassment Conditions have improved somewhat, although the company has not really given in. Since the Armsrtong contract expires in July, the company is anxious to have planty of tires stockpiled in case of a strike.

After the wildcat ended, the company sent out letters to all employees in which, borrowing words from Nixon and Agnew, it blamed the strike on a "minority group" which acted against the interests of "the silent majority." The workers know better: management's attempt to speed up and cut costs at their expense may force them to take another walk before July.

JOB THREATS AT UNIROYAL

by John Mendeloff

Back in January, Uniroyal first announced its plan to shut down its footwear plant in Naugatuck. Last month the company offered to keep the plant open for five years if the union (the United Rubber Workers - URW - Local 45) would accept immediate pay cuts of 13 cents to 60 cents per hour, no wage increases for three years, and increased productivity demands.

The URW members did not accept. By a vote of 1649 to 1097 they rejected the offer. Then, by an overwhelming margin, they supported a strike it the contract talks between the URW and Uniroyal break down.

The next day Uniroyal announced that it would proceed to shut the plant and laid off 30 men.

The company has claimed in press releases that the high wages paid at Naugatuck make the plant uncompetitive with the low-wage foreign plants. Last year B.F. Goodrich shut down its large footwear plant in Watertown, Mass., and Uniroyal closed footwear plants in Indiana and in Pawtucket, R.I. Now its only other footwear plant in the U.S. is a low-wage, non-union shop in Thomson son, Georgia.

Uniroyal also operates footwear plants in Spain, Puerto Rico, and Taiwan -- and these plants ship part of their output back to the U.S. Much of the wage competition which Local 45 members face comes from other plants run by Uniroyal itself. But the management's job is to make the union take the blame if the plant closes.

Why Did the Workers Reject It?

Many workers feel that they can't trust the company. Some feel the company may be bluffing about closing. Others don't trust the pledge to stay open for five years. They remember that in 1967 the workers at Woonsocket accepted a wage freeze in exchange for a promise that the plant would continue production. Three years later, Uniroyal shut down the plant. Meanwhile, while prices rose 16% , the workers there could only watch them go up.

Many are furious at the company for even making such an unacceptable offer. They know that, due to inflation, their pay buys less than it did five years ago; and they know inflation isn't ending. When everybody is striking to catch up, they don't feel they can go backwards. Some say that if Uniroyal can't pay a decent wage, then it shouldn't be in business. They know that a rich corporation like Uniroyal could pay a decent wage, but they also know that it won't. Lower wages mean higher profits.

Many of the workers have spent 20 and 30 years at the plant. What can they do when Uniroyal turns its back on them.

The dilemma is especially great for the older workers. With just a few years to go before retirement, they face the loss of many of their benefits. And along with women workers and black workers, older people will probably have the hardest time finding new jobs. But with unemployment now over 7% in the Waterbury area, no one will have an easy time finding a job.

Management, maybe with the cooperation of the union, may call for another vote on its offer. But unless the offer is changed, it will probably be rejected again. If the URW International Union decides to strike Uniroyal, then the chance of a company promise at Naugatuck would be slim. Only if the International made the shutdown a major issue at the national negotiations - with a threat to strike over that issue - could effective pressure be placed on the company.

A Problem for Many Workers

Many workers in many industries face similar threats to their job security. Electrical appliances, textiles, and shoes are three industries hardest hit. Tariffs on imports may be a good solution. But, economists say that tariffs often cause more problems than they solve, sparking tariff wars and cutting employment in other industries.

In any case, expanded re-training programs and increased benefits for laid off workers are needed. Unless such programs are available, the workers of Uniroyal may be deprived of the security they have earned.

Modern Times and the _View from the Bottom_ are not competitive papers. We will be coming out on alternate weeks and hope to provide better news service for everyone. Read _View from the Bottom_ as well as _Modern Times_.

NEW HAVEN COLLEGE : After The Strike

by Cathy Forman

Campus politics continue to develop and change at New Haven College, which was the scene of a student strike earlier this year. Recent events began with a dispute between the Black Student Union and the **New Haven College News**. By the time the dust settled, a new political group had formed, the Student Alliance; the Day Student Council had been frozen; and a constitutional convention had been called for the school.

In the past, New Haven College students have been characterized by political apathy. According to members of the Student Alliance, the lack of involvement could be explained by the fact that most students commute and most have full or part time jobs beside their studies. The strike held earlier this year to protest proposed increases in tuition was the first mass political action the students have participated in.

During the recent strike, the Black Student Union had moved into an unoccupied room in the Student Center. The Day Student Council asked the administration to evict them, but the administration refused.

Inflammatory News Story

On April 1 the **New Haven College News** printed an article which said the BSU had no community programs and spent its time "listening to records and rapping." The paper also claimed that the BSU had wrecked the furniture in their room and written obscene notes to the DSC.

Members of the BSU, claiming that the article was untrue, went to the newspaper to stop the issue from being distributed. They knocked over some typewriters and desks and pulled out telephone wires. The editor of the **News** later burned the remaining copies of the paper. That evening the President of the College, Marvin Peterson, froze the Day Student Council to prevent further conflict.

In a related event the same day, the BSU President, GeorgeCooper, and the writer of the newspaper article, Dennis Lehner, engaged in a short scuffle, and Mr. Lehner later filed a complaint with the police. Mr. Cooper turned himself in (with 40 witnesses) and will now face charges of breach of the peace on May 4. Mr. Cooper plans to file similar charges against Mr. Lehner before his trial.

A group of students, some from the strike committee, held a rally two days later to support the BSU and describe some of its projects, such as a breakfast program and free school for the nearby community. The rally concluded by setting up a Student Alliance to push for radical change at the College.

The students are now facing the problem of how to write a new constitution. A small group of DSC members wrote a constitution which they brought to the student body for approval two weeks ago.

The BSU and Student Alliance along with other students contesting the DSC proposal decided to set up a Constitutional Convention so that more students could participate in actually writing the constitution. Anyone could be a delegate if he or she got at least 20 names on a petition. The first meeting was planned for Wednesday, April 30.

Women: Force For Health Change

by Nancy Greep

Women are 70% of all hospital workers, but only 7% of all doctors are women. Women make twice as many visits to doctors as men do, but know less about their biology.

These facts and others, discussed at a women's health conference April 10-12, made the women who attended feel that they could be a powerful force in changing the quality of health service in this country.

Everyone complains about poor hospital care, expensive doctor bills and expensive drugs. Women are especially upset now about the side effects of the pill. Everyone needs medical services, and women are most involved.

People who attended the northeastern regional conference, held at the Yale-New Haven Medical Center and sponsored by the Student Health Organization and Women's Liberation, discussed the question of how women – as workers, patients, and consumers – are mistreated by the American health system. The workshops tried to figure out how the women could get together and force changes in the health system.

Women health workers not only hold lower jobs than men, but also earn 10-15% less than men for the same jobs. Because most doctors are men, they control the political power in professional organizations like the American Medical Association, and on the job in the positions of administrators. Unions for nurses and technicians and non-professional employees are only beginning to get organized.

Because the costs of health care in this country are already staggering and are growing at a rate two to three times faster than general prices, it was felt at the conference that women health workers are in a position to challenge the health system. If women health workers were to be equally paid for their jobs in hospitals and clinics, could the health system survive? Some women felt that women health workers could change the health business, which is profitable only for a few men, into one which better serves its patients without mistreating its workers.

One workshop discussed how women are mistreated by the health system as patients. As bearers and guardians of children, women are forced to have more contact with what was called our "totally inadequate and exploitative" health system than men.

Mothers, not fathers, are expected to attend to the health problems of children.

The Pill

Many women knew of bad experiences women have had using the pill. It was stressed that millions of women here and abroad use or have used the pill. The pill market is now a multi-million dollar business and is growing rapidly.

Doctors and drug industries have recklessly placed many women on the pill without letting them know the risks.

The women at the conference felt the power of women as a force for changing federal laws about drug practices is shown by the effect of women's reactions to the first official reports of the pills' risks.

A Gallup poll taken after Senator Nelsen's hearings on the pill showed that 87% of women knew of the con troversy over the pill and 18% had stopped taking it. The procedures surrounding the testing, licensing and marketing of the pill probably aren't that different from those of any other major prescription drug.

Women at the conference were anxious to continue to break down the myth that only doctors or pharmacists should have access to medical information.

Women are also making their voices heard over the issue of abortion. Many states have passed reform laws or have ruled their abortion statutes unconstitutional. However, it was emphasized at the workshops that the right to an abortion will not be won simply with the passage of liberalized laws. Pressure must still be applied to hospitals and doctors so they will provide low-cost facilities and services needed.

This, it was said, would underline the increasing need for outpatient facilities, more doctors, fewer specialists, better health insurance, and a general reorganization of the health system.

Clean Machines

Nearly 100 bicyclists including students from Southern Connecticut, Albertus Magnus and other New Haveners went on a pollution tour through the city on Saturday, April 18. The group followed the progressive pollution of the Mill River, a city sewage system outlet near East Rock, the proposed continuation of the East Rock Connector, the waste chemical outlet from Federal Paper Board Company into the Mill River, and the six tall stacks of United Illuminating, belching pale yellow gases into the sky. They then rode by Quinnipiac "Park," a flat, treeless strip of acid-burnt grass in the midst of the pollution of the Mill River and UI. Nearby was a sewage outlet, which passes unprocessed sewage into the river. Wheeling through downtown streets at 4 P.M. the group on their "clean machines" gasped and choked, eyes watering from the rush hour auto fumes. New Haven has the fourth heaviest traffic density in the nation, The bicyclists surveyed the future site of the half-mile long State Street garage, which will wipe out a small business district, and looked at the present Crown and Temple garages, all of which encourage more auto traffic. On their way home, the group passed another pollutor, Yale University, and stopped at the site of "People's Place," a plot of planted ground where Route 34 is supposed to be built. The tour was led by the Environmental Offensive and is part of a series which has been held each Saturday from Bread and Roses Coffee House, 538 State Street.

N.Y.U. STRIKE

(The following article is written by a clerical employee at Yale who is involved in the campaign to organize the 3000 non-unionized employees at Yale into the Yale Non-Faculty Action Committee [YNFAC]. YNFAC is an independent union for the clerical, technical and library workers at Yale.)

On Thursday, April 16, the library workers at New York University went on strike. By Tuesday, April 21, over 50% of the 2000 clerical, technical, and library workers at NYU had struck, with an additional 20% promising to honor the picket lines of the strikers

The workers are members of District 65, Retail, Wholesale, Office and Processing Union. The strike follows the refusal by the administration to recognize and bargain with the workers.

Some of the demands suggested by the workers for the NYU contract are:

1. $120 minimum wage for the lowest job category; appropriate higher minimum rates for more skilled classifications. Right now, starting salaries in most job classifications are about $80.00 per week.
2. Cost of living adjustments every six months.
3. Wage increases based on length of service.
4. 35-hour week with time and one-half after 7 hours per day. NYU employees now work three time schedules: 35, 37½, and 40 hours per week. Time and one-half is granted only for time worked in excess of 40 hours.
5. District 65 Security Plan–Complete hospitalization, medical, sick benefits, etc. paid for completely by the University.
6. 15 paid holidays, including Martin Luther King's Birthday.
7. Vacations–2 weeks after 6 months and 4 weeks after 1 year of employment. NYU now grants 1 week vacation for 6 months of employment, 2 weeks after 1 year and 3 weeks after 5 years.
8. A daycare center. 80% of NYU employees are women.
9. Open admission to NYU for employees and their families.

As of Friday, April 24, the NYU administration continued to refuse to negotiate with the striking workers.

POLLUTION—YALE STYLE

by Environmental Offensive

On Earth day, April 22, thousands of people poured out their anger about pollution. Even some of the major pollutors tried to get favorable publicity. For its part, Yale brought in Ted Kennedy to speak against pollution. The following article shows that Yale's public relations cannot hide its real role as a major pollutor. The authors are members of the Environmental Offensive.

Yale does not consider itself part of the New Haven community. Yale sees its role as training leaders for the nation and "preserving the continuity of Western Civilization." Yale's attitude seems to be that it just happens to have a campus in New Haven. According to Yale President Kingman Brewster, "While one is here, his views regarding the University should be primarily motivated by what is good for Yale." This blatant disregard for the welfare of the people who live in New Haven is shown by the various ways in which Yale pollutes the city.

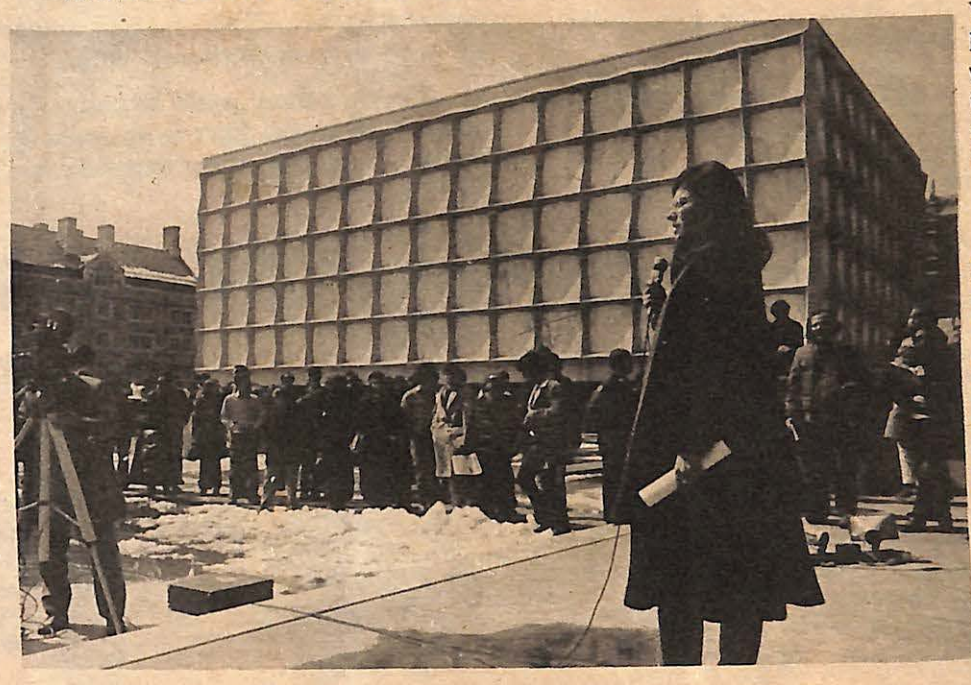
Yale is one of the major air polluters in the city. Each day its power plants produce 6½ tons of sulfur oxides, 2½ tons of nitrogen oxides and 900 pounds of dust and soot. This ranks Yale second only to the United Illuminating Company (U.I.) among polluting corporations in New Haven. Yale produces all this pollution because it uses cheap high-sulfur fuel and makes no attempt to remove the pollutants. Low-sulfur fuel is available, but it costs more. Ways of removing dust and soot are available, but they cost money too.

In an article in the **Yale Daily News**, Jack Embersits, Yale Business Manager, claimed that Yale "is and always has been within the legal limits for emitted pollutants." He fails to note that there **are no legal limits** on over 95% of the kind of pollution Yale produces.

Yale and Urban Renewal

Yale's influence on the environment goes far beyond its direct pollution. Yale has put its political and economic power solidly behind New Haven's highway and urban renewal programs. These programs have torn down thousands of low-income housing units and hundreds of small businesses and replaced them with highways, garages, luxury apartments and office buildings. They have destroyed parks and cut neighborhoods in half. They have caused a rapid increase in the volume of traffic coming into the city.

Why did Yale support these destructive programs? Yale would like to be surrounded by a fancy downtown. In the early '50's, however, Yale was bordered by the Oak Street and Dixwell neighborhoods. Instead of helping these neighborhoods to improve their homes and stores, the first redevelopment project simply tore down Oak Street. In its place Redevelopment put the Oak Street Connector, two luxury apartment houses and a series of office buildings. The downtown renewal project set out to rework the heart of the city, but the project got into trouble. Through the influence of Joseph Dilworth, joint trustee of Yale and Macy's, Yale bailed out the project. Yale also convinced local banks to give a huge loan to the developer of Chapel Mall. Yale will complete the "development" of downtown by demolishing 80 apartments and 20 small taxpaying businesses on Chapel Street to build the tax-exempt Mellon Art Gallery.



Yale is presented with the Polluter of the Week Award.

The Ring Road

The final step will be the building of the Inner Ring Road. In April of 1967, Brewster testified before the state legislature: "I urge the state to...connect the two highway systems by an inner belt describing an arc through the northwest quadrant of the city, from I-91 to Route 34, arranging the...roadway to minimize disruption of city and university life. A detailed plan to this end was submitted by the Mayor of the City if New Haven...I would urge that it be adopted by the state." To avoid disruption of the university the road was to go **underneath** Yale, but nothing was to be done to avoid disruption of the working people who live in the Dixwell and Dwight neighborhoods. The plan was to cost $ 37 million and displace 423 families and 201 businesses. According to Mrs. Griswold, Representative of the 109th District in the state legislature and wife of former Yale President Griswold: "For ten years the city administration of New Haven and Yale's administration have been hoping and praying for this Ring Road."

Why would Yale accept and even promote such a project? First, the Ring Road would *cut Yale off from the predominantly black Dixwell and Dwight areas. Second, the extension of the Ring Road down Howard and Columbus Avenues would separate Yale New Haven Hospital from the black and Puerto Rican areas of the Hill. Furthermore, the Ring Road would help bring about Yale's idea of what a university town should be: no slums within sight of the university, a clean modern downtown, and good roads directly into the university—all at no cost to Yale.*

The last word in disregard for the needs of the people of New Haven is the proposed rowing course. A group of present and former Yale trustees have gotten together under the University's quiet guidance to propose that Edgewood and West River Memorial Parks be turned into an Olympic rowing course. These parks need to be saved and improved as public parks. The community also needs other things—recreation facilities, daycare centers, neighborhood clinics—before it needs a rowing course. Only Yale wants the rowing course.

Yale's Investment in Pollution

Yale's impact on the environment spreads beyond New Haven. The University has money invested in polluting industries throughout the nation. The biggest source of air pollution in the country is the automobile, and the highways these cars run on are destroying cities and rural areas across the country, Any policy to upgrade the environment will have to eliminate or reduce the growth of the auto industry. Yale has nearly $100 million invested in the automobile-dependent industries: $30.5 million in autos, $49 million in oil, $7 million in rubber and steel, and $7.5 million in auto finance and insurance. Yale profits from pollution; New Haven's people suffer. All these investments depend on the continued growth and prosperity of the auto industry.

Another big source of air pollution is the rapidly-expanding electric power

Continued on page 12

UNITED AIRCRAFT THE TARGET

by Steve Schneider

On April 14, the United Aircraft Corporation (UAC) in East Hartford, one of the five largest defense contractors in the U.S., became the target of an anti-war demonstration organized by a group of UAC workers, concerned citizens and students calling themselves the Anti-Aircraft Conspiracy.

The Anti-Aircraft Conspiracy made the following demands upon the company—to stop all military production and convert its plants to peacetime uses; to make no layoffs during the period of conversion; to improve the working conditions of its employees; and to stop pollution at its plants.

A member of the Conspiracy explained why UAC was singled out as a special target: *"United Aircraft does 57% of its business in destruction-oriented production under contracts from the Defense Department. They made a profit of 50 million dollars last year alone. The high dependence on production of war materials has created economic instability in this country,which has led to soaring inflation and big layoffs."*

The spokesman for the Conspiracy went on to claim that the public does not profit: "Defense contracts are paid for with public funds, but the products and profits are not shared by the public. How many of us make Chairman Gwinn's salary of $225,000 a year? That salary doesn't even include any of his expense accounts, *stock options and other holdings. He isn't alone. The president of UAC Arthur Smith makes $175,000 a year and two vice presidents make $130,000 each. The corporate director and rich owners of UAC must be replaced by those who will meet the real needs of the people."*

Twenty-eight members of the Anti-Aircraft Conspiracy obtained proxies on shares of UAC stock and went to the stockholder's meeting to make their demands. The company refused to admit 23 of the group to the meeting. The other five protested that the company's action was illegal. Gwinn, who was chairing the meeting, ordered that the five be thrown out of the hall and arrested for disorderly conduct.

While the stockholder meeting was going on, over 4000 people gathered in Hartford's Bushnell Park to support the Anti-Aircraft Conspiracy. The main speaker at the rally was Abbie Hoffman, a defendant in the Chicago conspiracy trial. Hoffman urged the crowd to join the conspiracy in working against political repression. He asked everyone to support the Panthers and come to New Haven on May 1.

A week after the action, Theodore Pedemonti, a former UAC employee and another member of the Anti-Aircraft Conspiracy who was taken from the meeting was asked how he felt about the action. "It was good, but was obscured by the distorted news coverage. But then what can you expect from the **Hartford Courant**? One of their directors is a director of UAC. WTIC, the Hartford television station, was even worse. It is owned by Travellers Insurance Corp., whose president is a director of UAC. We've demanded equal time to respond to their absurd editorial, but they won't give it. They can't afford to."

He went on to say that "the national media were a little better, but none of the media reported any of the interlocking directories which allow the UAC big shots to have so much control over the people of Connecticut."

Anti-aircraft demonstrators enjoy rock concert.

Editorial-

Modern Times is part of a new awareness among the American people. In New Haven, as elsewhere, people are moving to change the way they work and live and learn. Conditions on the job, in schools, in neighborhoods, and cities are changing as people demand a new and free society.

There are many parts to the movement for social change. Some parts have been well-organized. The labor movement, now over a century in struggle, includes many who fought and continue to fight for dignity, security, good pay and good working conditions. Through groups like Women's liberation, the women's movement carries on the fight for that full equality so long denied to women. The black liberation movement has renewed our traditional struggle for human dignity and equality and has inspired other movements of the 1960's, especially among students. The student movement has played a major role in protesting the war in Vietnam and American militarism.

People in other countries are part of the movement as they fight for economic and political freedom against the same international corporations that run our lives here at home. There is also the socialist movement, which exposes the economic basis for the opression of all people under the capitalist system.

We of **Modern Times** believe that all of these struggles are related and that each needs the success of the others.

Why Modern Times?

The American Independent Movement (AIM) publishes **Modern Times**. Some of the things AIM has done since it was formed in 1966 are: run Bob Cook for Congress in 1966 and 1968, expose the city plan for the Ring Road in 1967, and publish the **Olin Strike News** in 1969. From 1966 until last month, AIM published the **AIM Newsletter**.

The news of most people's problems and struggles is not adequately covered in establishment newspapers, radio and TV. In **Modern Times** we want to report the news and opinions which never get fair treatment in the establishment press. At first, we will come out every two weeks, but, if we can get enough subscriptions and selling places, we want to come out more often.

We offer these pages to you. On the job, in the neighborhood, in school—where the fight is on—you the reader can use **Modern Times**. Tell the story, share the experience. You write it, or call us and we'll write it.

Money Talks

Tax Reform Loopholes

by John Mendeloff

When you filled out your income tax form last month, you saw that you paid more tax than ever before. Paying taxes next year will be a little easier. People raised such an outcry for tax reform that Congress was forced to act. It passed the Tax Reform Act of 1969, which will give us three kinds of relief. The war surtax was cut from 10% to 5% and that will end in July. The $600 personal exemption will go up in stages to $750 in 1973. The standard deduction will rise from 10% to 15% by 1973.

The chart below shows how much less tax a family of four will pay in 1973.

Married Couple, Two Dependents (Itemized 18% Deduction)

Adjusted Gross Income	Present Tax	Tax in 1973	Tax Decrease : Amount	%
$3000	0	0	0	
$4000	123	0	123	100%
5000	245	140	105	42.7
7500	578	476	102	17.7
10,000	962	848	114	11.9
15,000	1798	1666	132	7.3

But, for all the talk about closing up the tax loopholes for the rich and the corporations, very little was done. The oil depletion allowance was reduced to 22% from 27½%. The tax on capital gains went up from 25% to 30%.

The corporations have been getting off very easily. Statistics from the Bureau of the Budget show that during the last four years the amount of federal income taxes paid by individuals rose by 52%, while the taxes paid by corporations rose by only 26%, one-half as much.

And yet President Nixon wanted to cut the tax rate on corporate profits.

As for the rich, the new tax bill won't make them sweat either. Most of the top corporation executives will actually get tax reductions. And many of the big loopholes are still wide open. That's the provision that makes interest from state and city bonds tax free.

These bonds are sold by state and local government to finance projects like schools, sewage plants, and roads. The bonds pay a low interest rate—now 5% to 6% instead of 8% to 9% for most bonds—because the income from them is tax free.

The only buyers for them are banks and the very rich. Because the rich would pay high taxes on regular income, they are willing to accept less income if it is tax free.

Take Mrs. Dodge (the heiress to the Dodge Car fortune), for example. She invested most of her $50 million fortune in municipal bonds and she got $1.5 million a year in tax-free income.

Or take a bank like Chase-Manhattan, which just bought $41 million of Connecticut bonds. The state will pay the bank $2 million in interest this year, tax-free income for the bank.

The money to pay Mrs. Dodge and Chase-Manhattan comes from our property taxes—for local bonds—and from our sales taxes for state bonds. Last year $5 million of our New Haven taxes went to pay the interest on our local bonds; about 10% of your property taxes went directly to the rich. The state paid out about $50 million in interest last year.

Yet the sad fact is that mayors and governors flooded Congress to oppose any taxes on income from their bonds. They are afraid that, if the rich get taxed, they will demand higher interest payments from the states and cities, which will have to raise more taxes to pay them. Once again, the rich arrange to have the rest of us over a barrel.

This story about bonds is just one example of the loopholes that remain. If there's one good lesson from the latest tax bill, it is that a lot more money can be raised from the rich and the corporations. Tax reform has a long way to go.

Letters

To The Editor:

Well, here we are in another tax year, and our president has just delivered his speech on the economy. Now if you listen very closely you will see that we have completely eliminated hunger, poverty, housing shortages, discrimination, injustice, etc., etc. and the great phoenix is rising out of the fires of inequity- in a pig's eye.

The war on pollution has begun, and, of course, the working men and women of this country will foot the bill. But they're not the ones who pollute the air and water so, to be just, they shouldn't have to pay for it.

Yes, Mr. Nixon, the debt has indeed been called, but the debt is to the low and middle-income taxpayer who is being taxed beyond his capacity to pay.

It would only be a matter of passing a bill which would make it mandatory for all businesses to install anti-pollution devices at their own expense to stop this needless slaughter of people and wildlife. But, as we all know, our so-called representatives down in Washington don't give a damn about us because, after all, it is big business that contributes the campaign funds to these people and that slips them a new car or a TV or cash ever so often.

Well, it's about time we stepped on a few toes on Capitol Hill. We hear so much talk about inflationary spending these days as an excuse for the government and big corporations to squeeze money out of much needed social programs in order to pay business to stop polluting.

Say, how about a special tax on industry only to pay the tab on cleaning up the mess?

Active Trade Unionist

Spread Eagle

"My only concern is to confine the conflict to this small region"

by David Tobis

Of all the birds the eagle alone has seemed to wise men a type of royalty—not beautiful, not musical, not fit for food, but carnivorous, greedy, hateful to all, the curse of all, and, with its great powers of doing harm, surpassing them all in its desire of doing it.

Erasmus, 1517

To most of the people of the world, the presence of the American Eagle has not meant democracy, freedom and all the virtues we like to talk about. To them the American Eagle has meant control by foreigners of their lives, and national wealth. It has meant the destruction of their own cultures. As George Washington said 200 years ago: "Foreign influence is the most precious of all enemies of republican government."

This column will try to show what the American government and corporations have been doing in the rest of the world and what effects these actions have on the American people. This first article deals with the U.S. war in Indochina. Future articles will deal with other wars the United States is currently fighting, how foreign aid benefits U.S. businessmen, the nature of our immigration laws, attitudes of G.I.'s stationed through the world, and the Domino Theory. Any suggestions for other topics are welcome.

The United States has lost the War in Vietnam and has now started the War in Indochina. In Vietnam American troops have been pushed back to their military bases. The Viet Cong controls about 80% of the territory of South Vietnam. Even conservative or fearful people in South Vietnam have come to support complete and immediate withdrawal. For example, during February thousands of factory workers, dock workers and clerical workers went out on strike to protest the policies of their "government" and to demand higher wages and better working conditions. On February 19, 5000 striking Vietnamese dock workers demanded higher wages and the removal of American overseers who now control their work.

The American military effort has been beaten and can no longer conduct a ground war against the Vietnamese. Instead, for the past year the U.S. effort has been mainly saturation bombing of Vietnam. B-52's have been taking off from South Vietnam, and Thailand. Nixon's April 20 war speech referred to his successful "pacification" program. He forgot to mention that it is pacification from the sky. With an air war you don't need too many ground troops. When Nixon says he will withdraw 150,000 **ground** troops in a year, he knows it will not decrease the war effort. The ground troops, forced into the cities and their military bases, were beginning to get in each other's way. Withdrawing some will make the war easier.

The men who make U.S. policy know that American technology—mainly B-52 bombers—and $30 billion a year will allow the U.S. to continue to bomb Vietnam indefinitely. Then, the United States would never have to admit defeat. But there is a problem. Twenty more years of war probably would be too much for the American people especially since Nixon got elected in part, on the grounds that he would end the war.

Continued on page 13

Modern Times

Painters Face a Lockout by Employers

by Rick Wolff

A battle over work rules has jolted the negotiations between painters and their employers. On April 13 employers began a lockout of painters.

The Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades, Local 186, AFL-CIO, has over 350 members in the greater New Haven area. It has long had a state-wide reputation for getting better wages and working conditions than the other Painters' Locals in Connecticut. For example, Local 186 has blocked the use of paint rollers while other Connecticut Locals lost that fight. Rollers are the big issue in the current lockout.

Painters in New Haven now earn a base pay of $4.95 per hour according to their last contract signed in 1967. That contract expired on March 31, 1970. The Union's new wage demand is for a $1.25 per hour general increase. The employers, working together in the New Haven Chapter of the Painting and Decorating Contractors of America, have a counter offer of $1.05. The Union demands a 4½ day work week; the contractors seem to want 5 days.

Wages are an important issue, but the key dispute is over the use of rollers. The contractors want to be able to use rollers wherever they please. The painters want to allow rollers only when the paint materials make the use of brush -painting impossible.

The painters oppose the regular use of rollers for two reasons. First, they fear that many painters would lose their jobs. Second, they feel that roller painting involves an exhausting pace of work. "We don't intend to be worked to death. It's that simple," said one painter from West Haven. The painters explain that roller painting means for them what "speed-up" means for factory workers.

The contractors want rollers for one obvious reason: one paid hour of roller work covers twice as much surface as brush work. Having to pay fewer painters for any job will increase contractors' profits.

The other main reason for the lockout is the issue of painting with epoxy-type paints, which the contractors favor because it requires less repainting. And that means fewer jobs for painters. Yet the painters are even more concerned about the health hazard when painting with epoxy. The strong fumes from epoxy-type paints have already injured painters. Cases of fainting on the job have led to hospitalization. Painters find blisters on the back of the hand after contact with epoxy. They are worried that there may be effects which will not show up for months or years.

Local 186 has demanded that all painters be granted the right to refuse to work with epoxy. It has also demanded that no contractor be allowed to discriminate against any painter who refuses to paint with epoxy.

With rollers and epoxy the big issues, Local 186 explains its demands to the contractors in late December. By mid-March it was clear to everyone that the negotiations over the roller issue were getting nowhere. Union meetings in March, attended by a majority of the members, voted unanimously to stand firm on the issue of rollers. They also voted, by a majority of five to one, to authorize the Union's Executive Board and Negotiating Committee to call a strike after the contract expired on March 31, 1970. However, negotiations continued after March 31. The union instructed all member painters to continue working under the rules of the expired contract, until a new contract could be worked out.

On Friday, April 10, the painting contractors presented their demands directly to the individual painters, attempting to bypass the union. The employers wanted their demands to be the new work rules. The rules included the right of employers to use rollers and epoxy whenever they chose. At a hurriedly-called union meeting, the painters agreed not to let the contractors divide the union members from their elected negotiating committee. The painters resolved to report to work on Monday morning, April 13, and inform the contractors that they would work only according to the expired contract until a new contract was worked out through negotiations.

On Monday, when the painters arrived for work, the contractors gave them a choice: either work according to the contractor's demands or don't work at all. The painters refused. The lockout was on.

Several press accounts have talked about a painters' strike. There is no strike. Local 186 has called no strike. The contractors are running an old-style lockout.

About 75% of greater New Haven area painters are out of work. The contractors have refused to give the painters the blue separation slips which they need to collect unemployment insurance. The painters insist they will continue their picketing of contractors until a satisfactory contract is negotiated.

The lockout is particularly important because it outlines a tough stand that employers may be tempted to take in many other labor conflicts. Other employers and other workers are probably watching the painters carefully to see the outcome of this test of a union's strength.

Local 186 protests old style lockout.

Childcare

Continued from page 1

"Daycare centers are run primarily for profit and often turn out to be nothing more than glorified babysitting arrangements," says Barbara Stoloff, a member of the committee planning the weekend and mother of two. "The care of children must be the responsibility of society and not just the family alone."

The large family has been replaced by small isolated families who often must move from place to place. Women are left at home to watch their children without the benefit of safe parks, unpolluted beaches, decent backyards and, most important, other adults and children to share in the many responsibilities. Their husbands, out trying to earn enough to make ends meet, are not around to help out with the boring and frustrating parts of caring for kids."

The sponsors claim that this country has the money and skills to take real responsibility for the care of children. "Childcare centers are places open 24 hours a day so that children of working mothers, welfare mothers, women at home, single women, and men too, can be taken care of for a few hours, a day, or long periods of time as needed," said Donna Lustgarten, another member of the committee. The conference will also discuss what good childcare is all about. Childcare centers, in addition to satisfying and liberating parents, need to provide for the growth of children. "A child's attitudes towards others, work, learning and sex are being formed during the first five years of life," Rosemarie Chambers, working on the conference explained. "The kind of interaction that takes place between a child and the environment affects the child's ability to feel deeply, to be sensitive towards others, to trust oneself and others, to use initiative and to solve problems in a creative and cooperative way. The workshops will talk about ways in which childcare programs can ensure that these abilities are developed and not stifled," she said.

The workshop program includes the question of money. Good childcare centers will cost a lot of money. While the planners of the weekend see that childcare, like public education must be available to everyone, they state that middle-income taxpayers, who already bear the major financial burden of this country, must not be asked to pay again. The conference, therefore, plans to urge large companies, employing hundreds of workers, to provide money for new childcare centers. Corporations which pay less than their share of city taxes, such as Yale University, will be approached for money and space, leaving control of the centers in the hands of teachers, parents and children involved.

The sponsors of the weekend plan to follow up the weekend with regular meetings of any interested women in the New Haven community to continue to press for more childcare centers.

Recent Area Union Contracts

UE at Whitney Blake

The 290 members of the United Electrical Workers (UE) Local 299 recently negotiated a new two-year contract with the Whitney Blake Corporation in Hamden.

New provisions in the contract included a cost-of-living escalator clause, which will add up to five cents extra an hour each year, and paid jury duty.

Other provisions of the contract are as follows:

Wages: An increase of 18¢ the first year and 14¢ the second year. About 40 skilled trades workers will receive an extra 5¢ the first year. The average hourly wage in the shop under the old contract was about $3.30. About 50% of the 290 members work on an incentive system.

Pensions: A decrease in the number of years before vesting rights from 20 years to 15 years. In the second year, an increase from $2.50 to $3 a month per year of service. Before 1965, Whitney Blake workers had no pension plan but were in a profit-sharing plan.

Life Insurance: An increase in all classes of life insurance by $500 to a maximum of $5500.

Medical Benefits: Lower charges for coverage of the worker's dependents. In the first year, will pay room rate of $50 per day, up from $35. In second year, will pay for all semi-private room rate. Will pay surgical costs of $600 and pregnancy expenses of $300.

Vacations: Two weeks vacation after three years, instead of five years.

OCAW at United Nuclear

Local 8-718 of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers (OCAW) has negotiated a new three-year contract for 400 union members at United Nuclear Corporation in New Haven.

The contract includes the following provisions:

Wages: General increases of 7.5% the first year; 5.5% the second year and 6% the third year.

Pensions: Benefits remain at $5 a month per year of service; but vesting rights are now available at age 40, after ten years of service, instead of age 50.

Medical Benefits: Won coverage of CMS "Century Plan," the most comprehensive CMS plan. Bue Cross coverage includes 100% of pregnancy expenses.

Safety Program Improvements:

15-30% savings on auto insurance through group plan.

Holidays: Increase of one and a half days to 12 days.

Vacation: No change; two weeks after five years; three weeks after ten years; four weeks after 15 years.

IAM at Atlantic Wire

Lodge 1396 of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) negotiated a new contract in January for over 150 workers at the Atlantic Wire Co. in Branford.

The new contract includes the following gains:

Wages: A 6% wage increase each year, plus 2% extra the first year for skilled workers

Vacations: Workers with less than three years gained three extra days. Two weeks of vacation now comes at three years instead of five years. Three weeks comes at ten years instead of 15. Four weeks of vacation comes at 20 years instead of 25.

Pensions: The minimum pension was raised 50¢ to $3.10 a month per year of service up to 40 years.

Health Plan: The company will now pay for the Community CMS plan rather than the Preferred plan. The new plan will pay a much higher percentage of many hospital costs.

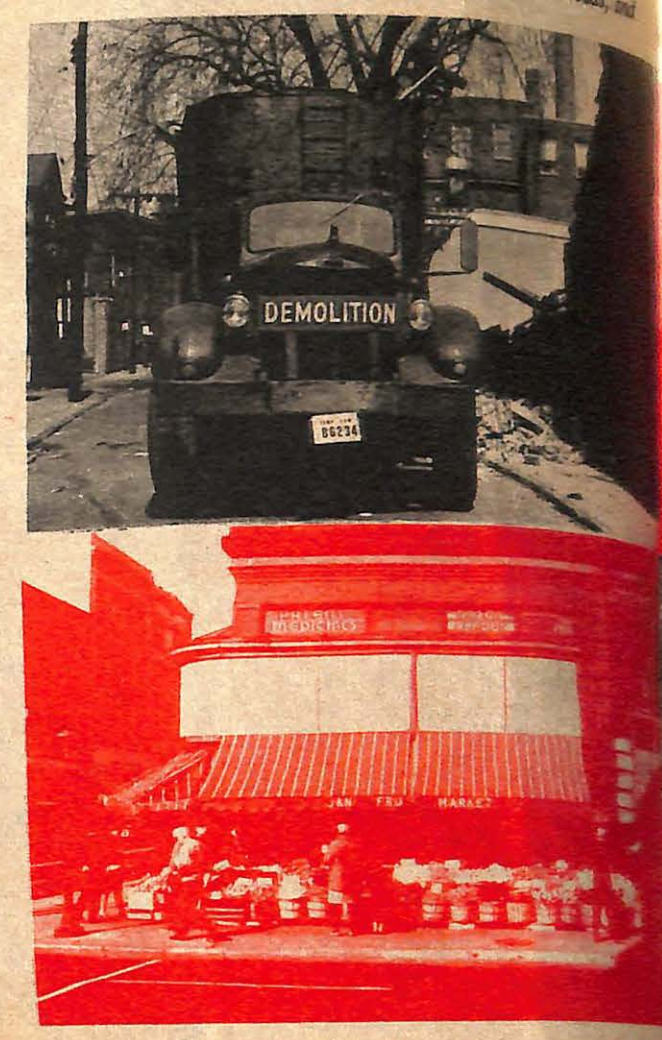
The new contract also provides greater protection for the earnings of incentive workers. The probationary period before a new worker can join the union was lowered from 90 days to 42 days.

The union's major disappointment was that it did not win its demand for a union shop. Union members approved the new contract by a vote of 42-37.

The negotiating committee for Lodge 1396 included the following: Clem Amendola, Donald Colson, Bob Crawley, John Donofrio, William Murray, and Connie Sansone. IAM Grand Lodge Representative Carl Johnson assisted the committee.

New Haven News

This column will appear regularly in **Modern Times** *and will deal with what the press and most liberals refer to as "urban problems" or the "urban crisis." American cities (including suburbs) and city dwellers (over 70% of U. S. population) do face very serious problems, but to call them "urban problems" implies that their causes, effects and solutions are to be found in the nature of cities and in the lives of people who live in cities. But cities and city life cannot be considered in isolation from broader factors. Cities and city life are an integral part of the American economic and social system: capitalism. This column will discuss New Haven politics, urban renewal, taxes, housing, the schools, city and regional planning, neighborhood organizing, highways and railroads, and*



by David Dickson

Let's consider the housing situation in America. Many Americans still believe in the frontier with its unlimited land and resources. They try to solve problems by moving on, if only to the suburbs. However, the frontier was officially closed in 1890, and even then one-third of the US population lived in cities. The American cities of 1890 absorbed massive waves of immigrants from Europe. Yet there was little effort to ease the problems of city growth, except for Jane Addams' settlement house movement in Chicago and Jacob Riis' tenement laws in New York City. Over-crowding worsened in the expanding cities. The frontier philosophy was applied to the city scene.

During the 1920's there were experiments with model tenements and model communities, but by 1930, after the collapse of the stock market in 1929, 50% of all Americans lived on subsistence income, and over 60% of all dwellings were substandard. By 1933 residential construction had fallen off 95% from 1929, and banks were making 1000 foreclosures a day. During Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal the economic structure of the country was reformed from free-wheeling finance capitalism to somewhat more regulated form of capitalism. Government, agricultural interests, and some labor unions joined forced with business and financial interests to rebuild the shattered economy.

City growth and housing construction had been paralyzed by the Depression. The New Deal came up with three kinds of programs to solve the housing crisis:

1. An urban renewal-type program which failed.

2. Loan and mortgage insurance programs which were used for middle income homes and not for workers' homes or rental properties.

3. A public housing program which built only 22,000 units, although it cleared a great deal of land.

All of these programs substituted government money, loans, or insurance for the free play of the market. The programs, however, still guaranteed the capitalists who did the building a handsome profit. By 1939 America was suburbanizing rapidly, and the first department stores were moving out of the cities to follow their middle-class customers. City and regional planning received some government support.

Postwar Situation

World War II interrupted America's physical growth, except for the public housing program, which cranked out 1, 200, 000 cheap housing units for the workers who migrated from the farms to the cities to work in the defense palnts. In New Haven over 50% of all low-income family public housing was built during the war. Farnum Courts is an example of this housing.

MAY DAY — THE TRUE LABOR D

by Ruth Meyerowitz

On May 1 workers all over the world will demonstrate to show the strength that labor can have. May 1 is the real "labor day," but in the United States, it is disguised as "Law Day." In New Haven, Al Capp, the cartoonist who became rich by mocking poor white people in the south ("L'il Abner"), will be getting a special award for the day. The fact is, though, that May Day is really an American Holiday and the worldwide demonstrations will continue the tradition begun here in 1886 when there was a one day strike demanding the eight hour day.

The May Day general strike was a turning point in the more than 40 year struggle for a shorter working day. After it the workers began to rely on unions and strikes instead of legislation. Before it workers had demanded legislation to limit the working day to eight hours. But few laws were passed and those were not effective. Since the laws lacked provisions for enforcement, workers were totally dependent on the good will of politicians to see that the law was carried out. Many of these politicians, including then-President Chester A. Arthur, thought the law was unconstitutional. They refused to enforce it.

By 1884 the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions decided that a demand for a shorter working day made by an organization of all workers would be more effective than passing laws. In 1885 the Federation planned to introduce the eight-hour day through negotiations between unions and employers. If this didn't work out, the unions would strike.

The Federation asked the Knights of Labor, the strongest labor organization of the day, to join. Its leaders, especially Terrence V. Powder said they would not support a strike. Like today, many of the locals and the rank and file of the Knights defied their leaders and made plans to strike.

May 1, 1886

On May 1, 1886 workers in every industrial center put down their tools. Despite the opposition of the Knights, 350,000 workers across the country went on strike. In Detroit 11,000 marched in the eight-hour parade. In N.Y. an estimated 25,000 marched in a torchlight procession down Broadway to Union Square. Not surprisingly the strike was most successful in Chicago, the center of a militant left-wing labor movement. There alone, 40,000 workers went out.

Chicago was also the scene of an organized employer response. Many feared the strength of a united labor movement and granted a shorter working day to more than 45,000 non-strikers. In addition Chicago's political and industrial leaders reacted to labor's plans for a peaceful demonstration by preparing for armed warfare. Companies of armed police and special officers were gathered on May 1 to enforce "law and order." Police, Pinkertons, and militia officers with rifles and other weapons were stationed on strategic rooftops. In the state armories, 1,350 members of the National Guard were mobilized and armed. (Does this sound like the Post Office strike?) Equipped with Gatling guns they stood ready to march on the instant.

Leading business members of a citizens committee gathered in a continuous all-day session in a centrally-located office building. They were ready, if need be, to start a battle to save Chicago from what they called "communistic eight-hour day." To the disappointment of Chicago's politicians and industrialists, the demonstrations were peaceful.

But the hysteria and fear of labor remained. It exploded on May 3 at the McCormick Harvester (now International Harvester) plant where a strike was in progress. Strikers were demonstrating against 300 scabs escorted into the plant by several hundred police. Without warning, police fired upon the unarmed workers, killing at least four and wounding many. Toward the end of a peaceful meeting, a bomb suddenly exploded near the police, killing one policeman instantly and wounding more than 50 others. The police immediately opened fire on the crowd, chasing, clubbing and shooting down the assembled men, women and children. Several were killed and more than 200 others wounded.

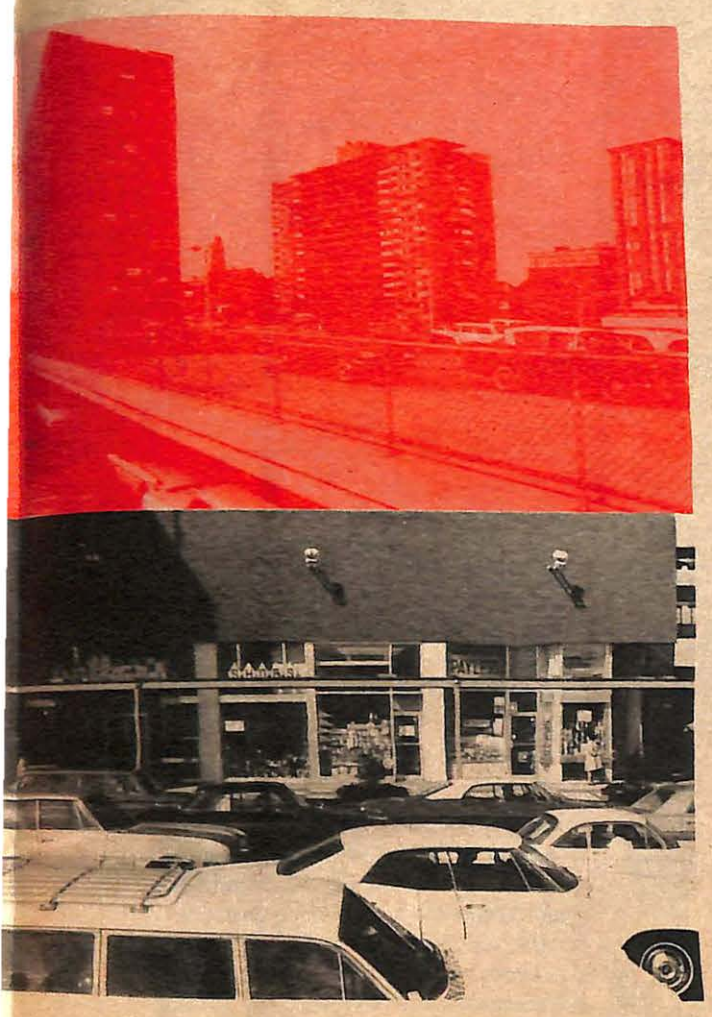
Repression of Labor Movement

The police used the bombing to harrass and repress the labor movement. They broke into meeting halls, printing offices and homes . Of the hundreds of workers arrested, only eight anarchists were indicted, tried and convicted. The press was already terrified by the agitation surrounding the eight-hour movement. It used the Haymarket affair to whip up anti-labor hysteria and portrayed the incident as the latest in a ten-year series of strikes and labor violence. Together employers, the press, the state legislatures, the courts, and the police launched a vicious campaign against the labor movement. Employers began widespread anti-union campaigns with Pinkertons, lockouts, blacklists and yel-

...e relation of New Haven to the suburbs. Issues and problems will not be viewed in isolation but will be seen as interrelated parts of the "American crisis."

This first article gives the history of the "housing crisis" in American cities. In the next issue, there will be a review of the so-called new housing program of the Nixon administration and a discusiion of the relation of New Haven to its suburban neighbors on the issue of housing.

Suggestions, stories, letters, corrections, information, and rebuttals from readers are more than welcome. **Modern Times** *will print as much reader response as possible.*



Housing Crisis 1

Following World War II, the home mortgage insurance program (FHA) mushroomed, and the suburbs grew even more rapidly than before the war. The migration from farm to city also increased. However, whole areas in the cities had been blacklisted by the banks who refused to make mortgage loans there because the profits weren't big enough.

The Housing Act of 1949 was designed to pump money into the decaying downtowns and create new housing for the people who were living in slums and were unable to move to the suburbs. The money was used to clear large areas of land, but only luxury housing was built. Even the luxury housing was delayed for many years. More public housing was authorized, but not much was built. In New Haven 600 moderate-income units and only 200 low-income units were built between 1949 and 1954.

Urban "Renewal"

In 1954 the Housing Act was changed to allow downtown development of stores and office buildings and, supposedly, to build more housing. This legislation opened the way for Dick Lee's urban renewal program in New Haven.

The whole New Haven renewal program will be the subject of another column, but its effect on the housing situation must be noted here. Between 1950 and 1967, New Haven's population dropped by 22, 700 persons. The inner-city areas where urban renewal took place lost 31, 600 persons, and the rest of the city gained 9000 people. Over 7000 low and moderate-income units have been destroyed in New Haven by Lee's programs, but only 1600 units have been built in their place. Some 650 of these units are for the elderly, and only 200 or so are available for low-income families.

Most of the new construction was for the direct or indirect benefit of the upper classes such as large office buildings for the Southern New England Telephone Co., Macy's, Malley's, and the First New Haven National Bank; similarly, luxury housing such as Crown Towers and the highways to connect downtown to the suburbs were constructed.

In the neighborhoods this pattern was repeated on a lesser scale. The mini-shopping center on Dixwell Avenue and the adjoining moderate-income co-op housing are examples. In short, the housing crisis was made worse by renewal programs and has not been solved to this day. That is, the housing crisis for poor and working people has been made worse. There was never a real crisis for the upper classes, and the FHA programs have made it possible for millions of middle-class people to own a home. Even middle-class people, though, are encountering difficulties today in paying for their home and supporting the services of suburban towns.. The crisis is spreading.

DAY

...n chief weapons. The police worked to discredit and ...who helped make Chicago the most militant labor center ...ice infiltrated anarchists societies, planted weapons and ...s. The press headlined the daily raids and listed the plan...ition, dynamite, bombs, shells, underground rifle ran...c. The state legislatures quickly passed laws curbing ...e courts began to convict union members of conspir...ioting in large numbers. (Today's attacks on the Pan...similar to these nineteenth century events.)

...attacks on labor, the eight-hour movement went ...n a shorter working day for hundreds of thousands ... of the 1886 May Day general strike, about 185,000 ...ors won the eight-hour demand. The agitation led ...least another 200,000. In many trades where peo... sixteen hours, the work day was reduced to twelve ...ur days were reduced, and scores of ten hour ...lding, were cut down to nine hours a day.

... of international labor solidarity in 1892. In 1888 ...n of Labor (AFL) voted to continue the eight-...d May 1, 1890, as the date on which organized ...eight-hour day. Meanwhile, labor organizations in ...-hour day and began to build similar movements

...ght-hour movement as a great organizing issue. During ...eld many demonstrations and mass meetings on public ...s decided against a general strike in 1890. He proposed ...unions would strike at a time. Each year additional ...til all employers agreed to the eight-hour day.

May 1, 1890

...ns of thousands of workers demonstrated throughout ...st...ations in the United States were impressive. Many ...were under the joint sponsorship of the AFL and the ...Over 100 trade unions were represented by more than ...Chicago parade. Seventy trade unions marched in the ...on, many of them carrying red flags along with ...marched under banners reading, "We Live by Labor Not ...sse," "The Present Industrial System Means Robbery," ..." and "The Socialist Commonwealth is the Final Aim."

...of thousands of workers obtained wage increases and ...t o...the May Day demonstrations, the struggle for an ...s o... In the midst of talk about a six-hour day, the eight-...ealty for most Americans, who must work overtime or ...e ends meet. Despite "improvements" in working condi...be...changed before most work is no longer unhealthy and ...nt...ben as now were demands for peace, a more just so...yor...ing conditions. The struggle for a decent life and ...g people still goes on.

Resignations: Business as Usual at the Redevelopment Agency

by George Johnson.

Attorney Steve Darley's recent well-publicized resignation from the Redevelopment Agency makes it a clean sweep: he's the last of their three attorneys to quit. The resignations bring to the surface conflicts brewing in the agency for a long time. Informed sources say that the three "just gave up hope" that the Agency would ever change its policies and threw in the towel.

Most likely, the resignations show that the Agency faces some major adjustments in the next few months. It's no secret that Mel Adams, its long time head, was Dick Lee 's closest political ally. Now that Lee is gone, Adams and the rest of Lee's group in and out of the Agency are uptight waiting for Guida to decide their future course.

It's not an easy question because big stakes are involved. Lee developed and ran the operation as his personal power base. He installed his most important political cronies in the high-salaried Agency jobs.. His financial backers won the lucrative construction contracts and the inside investment opportunities which the Agency projects provided. He used his nationally publicized urban renewal program to subsidize the big financial interests he needed in his camp. The Agency was his ace in the hole, the grease he needed to keep his political machinery running.

But because he used it so brilliantly to further his own political ends, the public suffered. What was good for Lee and his corporate friends was bad for New Haven. They wanted—and they got—at public expense—glass towers for their offices and stores and the highways and parking garages those towers require to be profitable. Under Lee the rich got the downtown, and the people got "relocated," out of the neighborhoods they liked and very often out of the city entirely.

Darley and other lawyers tried hard for years to reverse this process. They argued for housing and against highways and towers, for people and against corporations. Apparently, they argued too hard and too often so they got fired.

This little storm will blow over soon. The Agency can get along without lawyers. It has in the past. When its own lawyers wrote a memo condemning the Edgewood Park Rowing Course proposal as an illegal land grab, Adams and Lee simply paid an outside law firm to write them a memo with the conclusion they wanted. The mayor will decide in the next few months which of his allies should get these twenty-thousand dollar jobs at the Agency. Soon a slightly different group of corporate fat cats will line up at its public saucer of rich cream. Maybe Mel can stay on, maybe he'll be out on his ear with the rest of them. But the public can expect business as usual at the Redevelopment Agency.

"It says, 'Pottsburgh, settled in 1530, survived the Indian massacres, the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, wiped out by shopping center development 1968.'"

Indictments Questioned

by John Bancroft

Eight members of the Black Panther Party are facing trial in New Haven. The police say they kidnapped and then killed Party member Alex Rackley. The Panther Party has stated that Rackley was a member in good standing of the Party who was murdered by George Sama and others accused by the Panthers of being police agents. Sams has since pleaded guilty to the crime, and has turned "state's evidence."

Since their arrest last May, the defendants have been separated in jails all over Connecticut without bail. They have been held on the basis of indictments handed down last summer by secret grand juries. Those grand juries were supposed to weigh the evidence and decide if there were sufficient grounds to have the Panthers indicted. They decided, without questioning the defendants or their lawyers, that there was enough evidence.

Last week, Charles Garry, one of the defense attorneys, began an attack on the grand jury that indicted Seale and the methods used to select it. The story, as it began to emerge in court, went as follows. Sheriff Ed Slavin simply got together some of his friends and put them on the grand jury with 12 other people. There was George O'Keefe, the laundry man, whom Slavin had known for years. There was William Gallagher, a lawyer, whom Slavin met in the hallway just before the group got together. William Branton, whom Slavin met through his friend Dan Cosgrove in the construction business, also came along. Then there was Arthur Jaqua, who had worked for Slavin for 2 or 3 years as a jail guard. Joseph Shea, who owns the barbershop Slavin goes to, and who has known Slavin for 40 years, was there too. With Shea came Fred Colley, who works in Shea's shop and cuts Slavin's hair. Slavin also knows Colley because Colley voted for him as sheriff at the Democratic convention a while ago.

In summing up his attack on the grand jury selection, Attorney Garry said, "The grand juries of this county, chosen by Sheriff Slavin, are filled with his hand-picked cronies and are not representative of the people of this county."

The challenge to the grand jury is the latest in a series of defense challenges to the arrests and legal procedures which followed in the Panther case. The defense attorneys have been filing such challenges for the past four months in the attempt to secure a fair trial for the defendants.

Star Witness to Undergo Mental Exam

The defense attorneys requested a mental examination of the state's star witness, George Sams. They produced information that he had been sent to prison before as a "dangerous mental defective." The judge denied this request. He let Sams testify at the bail hearing for defendant Bobby Seale. Only afterwards did the judge order a state doctor to examine Sams.

The defense lawyers asked that they be allowed to examine the body of the alleged victim and to check out police stories about the alleged murder.. The State's Attorney announced that the body body had already been shipped out of state.

The lawyers asked permission to interview witnesses who will testify at the trial, so they can have an idea of the charges they have to defend their clients against. The judge refused. They asked to be notified when police interview their clients in jail. This request was also refused.

Five Panthers moved to have bail granted so they could be out of jail until the trial started. The judge denied this motion for 4 of them. The fifth, Frances Carter, did get bail, but was rejailed again less than 48 hours later when she refused to testify against her fellow Party members.

The lawyers also asked the Court to throw out the charges because the police had made the arrests without arrest warrants and had ransacked the Panther office without search warrants. Both are required by the U.S. Constitition. The judge rejected both requests.

Restrictions by Court

Panthers and their supporters expressed concern at the court order outlining many restrictions about how the case would be handled. The order requires that everyone coming into court submit to a search. The Panthers see this order as a way of prejudicing the public against the defendants by making people assume there was something dangerous about the Panthers before the trial started.

Continued on page 13

Free my father.

Local Groups Protest Panther Trial

Continued from page 1

of free assembly.... just to sell newspapers in the community, and to conduct the many programs serving the people we have, such as the breakfast program, like the free medical clinics and like our liberation schools and our political education classes.'

Black Community Responses

Many organization in New Haven's black community have come together to express their solidarity with the Panther Party in the face of the violation of the civil liberties which they feel the trial represents. On April 2, J. Otis Cochran, Yale law student and chairman of the Black American Law Students Association, said: 'The fact is that the civil liberties of the Panthers have been systematically violated in the past few months on a scale as great as any violation of the rights of any group in our nation's history, yet instead of the chorus of outrage we should be hearing from the civil libertarians, we hear not a peep, not a murmur.'

Since that time, all of the black student organizations at Yale, the Yale black faculty and administrators and the forty community organizations that make up the Black Coalition have formed the United Front for Panther Defense. The United Front maintains that the New Haven trial is really a political trial rather than a criminal one, and demands that the prisoners be released. At their opening press conference on April 21, the United Front called for a national conference of black organizations-- such as the NAACP, CORE, SNCC, and many religious groups to unite the black liberation movement. The conference is to be held in New Haven the weekend of May 16. The United Front stated: "The Black Panther Party was formed to defend the community; now the community is called upon to defend the Black Panther Party."

Defense Committee

The New Haven Panther Defense Committee supports and emphasizes the political program of the Black Panther Party. It works closely with the Party and accepts its leadership in carrying out defense activities. The committee's address is 1084 Chapel St., New Haven.

Meanwhile, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has filed an extensive challenge in federal court in regard to the Panther case. The ACLU protests against the severe censorship of mail, the restrictions on visitors, and the fact that prisoners cannot have doctors of their own choice. The ACLU points out that prisoners are being treated as if they had already been convicted. The ACLU has arranged for Yale law students to attend court sessions as observers. They will issue regular reports on the conduct of the trial. In addition, some members of the faculty of the Yale Law School also plan to monitor the trial for fairness.

The Coalition for the Defense of the Panthers, 425 College St., comprised of 17 organizations and a number of individuals, has a speakers bureau and literature service and has been visiting groups since last October to discuss the history and civil liberties aspects of the case. Lately the Coalition has been growing. The most recent group to join is Dwight Concerned Citizens.

The Religious Community

A number of church groups in New Haven have also expressed deep concern for the rights of the Panther defendents. Last December, several religious organizations jointly issued a statement for a fair trial. It said, in part: "Law enforcement agencies (perhaps discouraged by recent Supreme Court rulings) seem increasingly prepared to use raids, seizure, arraignment, and the crippling costs of defense to silence unpopular ideologies by police action rather than due process... In the case of the Panthers, the inordinate delay of hearings, and the holding without bail of the defendents, have unduly increased both the cost and the difficulty of the defense attorney's task. As to a fair public response, inflammatory press coverage may now have made it impossible."

The statement was signed by Christian Community Action, the New Haven Council of Churches, the Yale Religious Ministry, the Social Action Committee of the New Haven District of Catholic Churches, the Lutheran Clergy of Greater New Haven, the Social Ministry Committee of the New England Synod of the Lutheran Church in America, and the Community Church Alliance.

This week the New Haven Council of Churches has set up an information and communications center at its office, 53 Wall St. The purpose of this center is to coordinate groups interested in a fair trial for the Panthers and to provide information to the public. In order to perform these functions, the office will be staffed 24 hours a day. The center's telephone numbers are 624-3120, 624-3128, or 624-3129.

The Council of Churches felt this service was necessary to offset the inaccurate reports and unsubstantiated rumors which have been circulating in New Haven about the trial and public reactions to it.

Continued on page 13

Arrest in front of White Tower after Panther demonstration Tuesday, April 21.

Legal Aid: Running on thin ice

by Arthur Fleischner

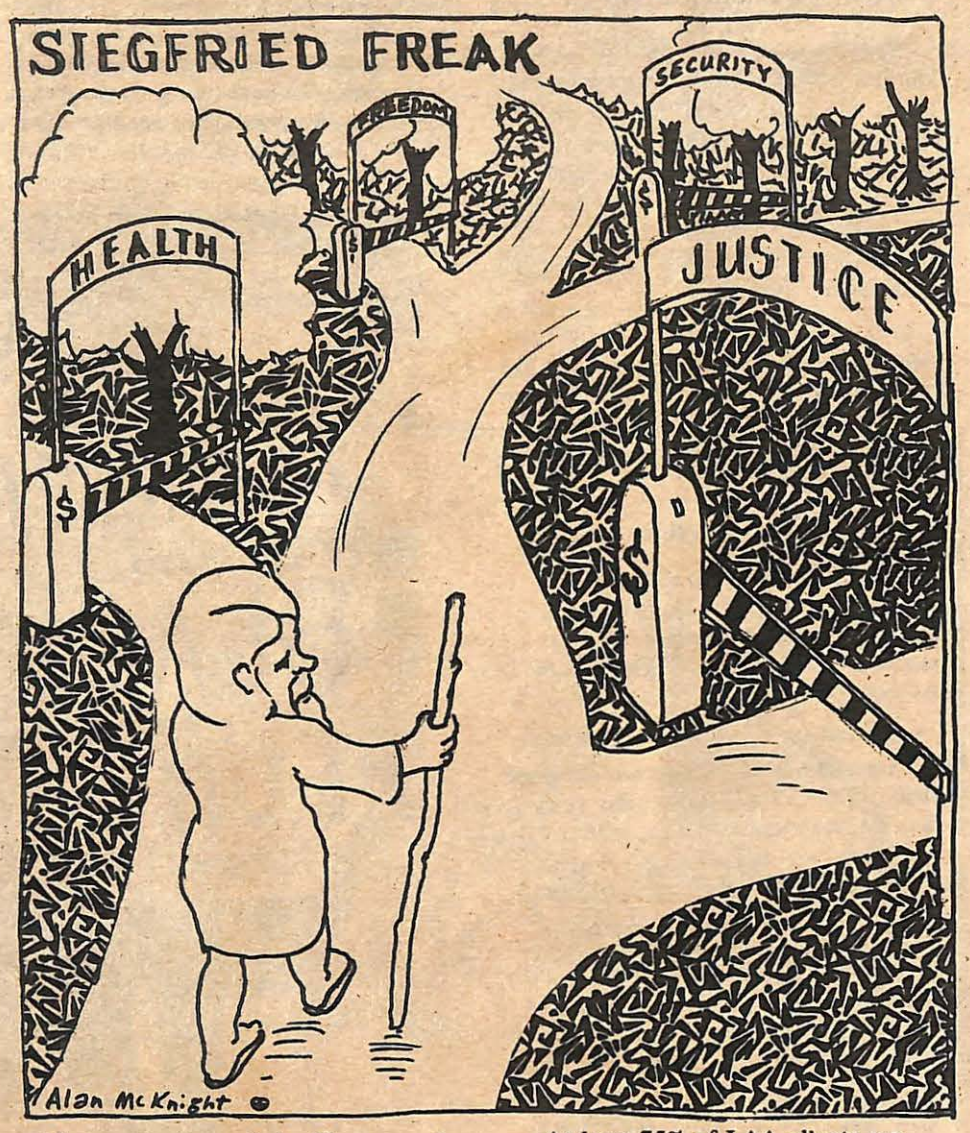
The New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc. (LAA) has been in operation since May, 1964, but only 35% of the people who need its service use it or even know about it. The figure comes from Fred Danforth. He helped to start LAA in 1964 and has been its director ever since.

LAA developed out of Community Progress Incorporated (CPI) with the idea that it might be better to have a lawyer working in neighborhood offices where people could come for legal advice. Now there are five neighborhood offices (West Rock, Legion, Grand, Congress and Newhallville) as well as a downtown office in the City Hall Annex. People in these neighborhoods may use their local office; others in New Haven County use the downtown office.

There are general rules about which people may use LAA. A client is allowed an income of $50 a week, $70 if two people are in the family and $10 for each dependent. All legal services are free except court costs. This exception is one of the problems LAA is trying to solve. There is a Connecticut requirement that everyone pay court costs. To file for a divorce costs about $65 altogether. Many people just can't afford that and so are denied something which they feel would improve their lives.

"Money has always controlled the legal system," says Frank Dineen, General Counsel for LAA and a former CPI worker. "As long as we have the present legal system, inequities will continue and poor people will suffer. LAA is a proper step because it takes money out of the system. We have one of the best LAA programs in the country. *I think our lawyers can do a good job without looking to make a profit on each case.* The motivation and incentive they have occurs everyday when they see how society has discriminated against their clients because they are poor."

LAA faces a major problem in deciding whether to spend more time with individual clients or with community organizations. LAA now represents about 40 neighborhood, community and city-wide organizations. John Waxman, who has been with LAA since 1967 and now runs the Legion Avenue office stated, "Both problems must be dealt with, but personally I hope to put my time into work with groups. It offers a greater force for change."



Since 1965 the individual case load has gone from 3167 a year to 7082 last year. The downtown office's case load has remained about the same, but the neighborhood offices have increased the number of clients. One reason for this may be that the neighborhood offices are on the street, open to the neighborhood. The downtown office is in City Hall on the third floor.

At least 75% of LAA clients are blacks or Puerto Ricans; of the remaining 25% who are white, most use the downtown office. There are no immediate plans to open more neighborhood offices. Danforth says, "Eventually we would like to have more offices, but *first we hope to increase our staff.* We just don't have the manpower to deal with all the work that has to be done."

Public Fears Lawyers, Courts

Some LAA workers explain that more people don't know about LAA because lawyers are not allowed to advertise. But this shouldn't affect LAA: they do not fall under this ruling because LAA lawyers do not receive anything from their clients. All the lawyers interviewed admitted that education and publicity were their main tasks Poor people have always been suspicious of lawyers and get scared to death when they receive a legal notice. "Too many times our clients come in when it is too late," said Alan Simms, who works in the downtown office. "The poor have too much respect for lawyers and judges. We must overcome this. The fear of legal action by the poor is understandable, though, when you look at our past legal history."

Private attorney George Johnson adds, "The placing of property rights over human rights has been a tradition in this country. The courts have always upheld this and seem determined to do so today. People seem to get more upset when buildings are destroyed than when people are killed."

Continues Simms, "We deal with many bankruptcy cases and we must convince the client that it's not morally wrong to go into bankruptcy. If businesses can do it all the time, then why not private citizens?"

LAA is funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), the State of Connecticut, the Ford Foundation and the New Haven County Bar Association.

Many Problems

When LAA was just beginning, the New Haven Bar Association launched an attack with statements such as, "Everyone will be coming here to get free legal service." There is still animosity toward LAA by private lawyers, some of whom regret the loss of profits they made off of poor people.

Deputy Director, Tom Wies evaluates LAA in these terms, "Our service to clients is good, even though our lawyers are young and lack experience, especially in criminal work. Most of the time our lawyers do a better job than private lawyers. They have more empathy with the clients. They understand the language of the ghetto whereas a private lawyer might not. Private lawyers depend on money while we don't put an economic value on the

Continued on page 14

OUTASITE the PARASITE
NOW... ALL US FLEAS ARE AGREED THAT WE'VE GOT TO ORGANIZE OURSELVES TO FACE THIS, RIGHT?
RIGHT!!!
SO... SHALL WE MEET RIGHT NOW?
I'VE GOT ANOTHER MEETING TO ATTEND...
HOW ABOUT TOMORROW?
I'M LATE...
CAN'T RIGHT NOW... I'M S'POSED TO CATCH A DOG...
I'M BUSY TUESDAY...
I HAVEN'T EATEN YET...
HAVE TO... SAID I
DIDN'T REALIZE...
FORGOT
BZZZZZZ
BZZZZZZ
NO WONDER WE HAVEN'T EVOLVED ANY FURTHER...
BETTY MURRAY

Earth Day: Teach-ins, People's Park

by Dan Vapnek

Earth Day, a new holiday dedicated to the preservation and celebration of man's natural environment, was celebrated throughout New Haven on April 22.

The largest celebration was atSouthern Connecticut State college,where thousands gathered for tree planting, environmental theater, speakers on pollution, a multimedia pollution show and rock bands. Spectators compared the scene to a miniature Woodstock festival.

Official speakers at Southern Connecticut included the State Commissioner of Health Franklin Foote, who stated, as always, that existing state agencies were dealing adequately with environmental problems in Connecticut. Angus Gordon, President of United Illuminating, was criticized when he characterized "conservationists" and "environmentalists" as "utopian extremists."

Plans have been made at Southern Connecticut to carry on the Earth Day fight with permanent organization and more actions in the future.

People's Park

Earth Day was also celebrated in New Haven with gatherings at Lee High School, New Haven College, South Central Community College, and on the New Haven Green.

Members of the Environmental Offensive and Yale's Environmental Action Group were joined by students from Hillhouse High School and later by students from Scranton Elementary School in the planning of a "People's Park" on the site of the proposed Route 34 in New Haven.

The "People's Park" was first conceived about a year ago after hearings were held to determine the fate of the 44 acres of cleared land between the Hill and Dwight neighborhoods. The land was originally cleared by the State Highway Department displacing 2000 residents and numerous small businesses. A 16-lane road has been proposed for the site.

Last year a group opposed to the road planted a tree and put up a sign at the site demanding that the land be used for housing instead of highways. Immediately after the group left, however, the tree was uprooted by police.

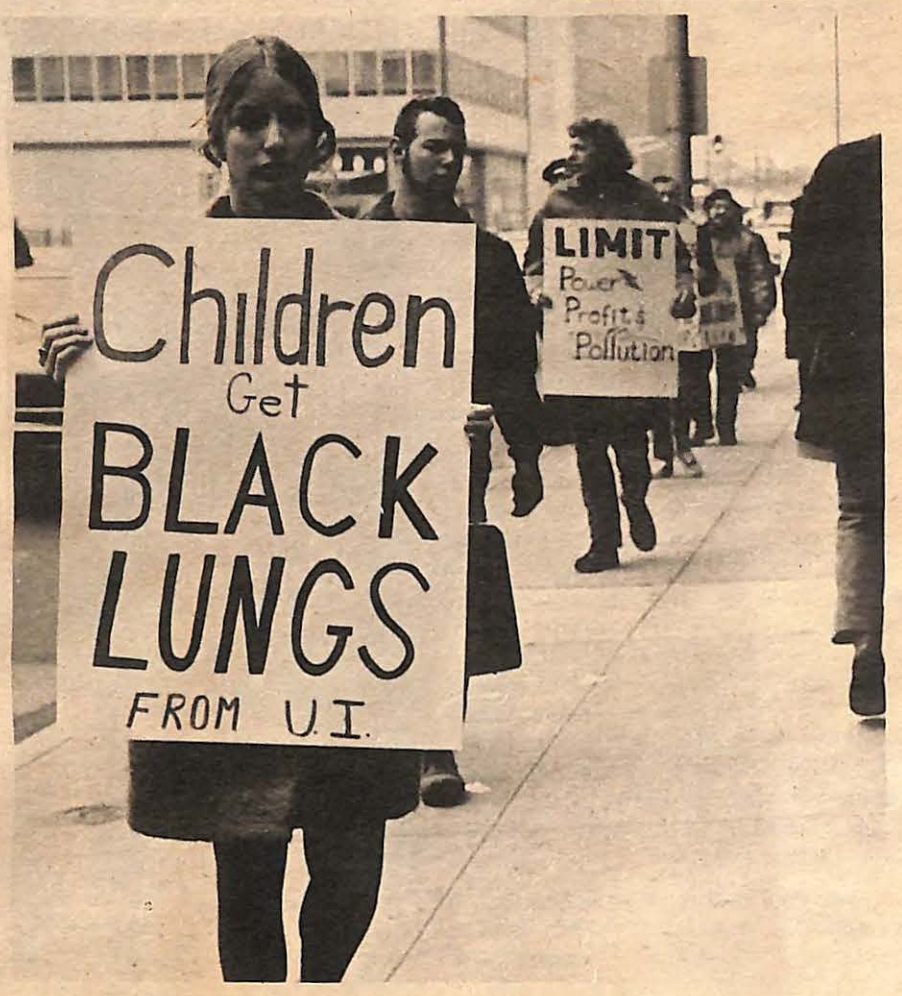
Earth Day Action

On Earth Day the tree planters were back again. Land was graded and grass planted. A group of 75 people cleared rocks and bricks from the site and planted grass seed.

A spokesman from the Environmental Offensive said that the action was designed to help return the land for housing and parks. He pointed out that the highway would bring more pollution, physically divide and isolate the Dwight and Hill communities, lead to additional parking garages and highways, and use up land badly needed for housing. He went on to say that the vicious cycle could only be prevented by an efficient mass transit system which might use existing highways and lead to less pollution.

Members of the Environmental Offensive plan to return on Saturday mornings to continue work on the park and voice hope that more neighborhood people would help and that local businesses would donate athletic equipment.

Although the people from the neighborhood seemed to have little hope that the land can be saved, a group from the Hill sanitation squad helped remove some of the rubble from the area. One ten year-old student from Scranton elementary school, when told of the plans to build a park, said: 'Do you know what's going to happen when the cops hear about this? They're going to come in here and start shooting you up." He then went about cleaning up the site.



Pickets protest outside UI stockholder's meeting.

Continued from page 5.

Pollution- Yale Style

industry. Yale has $18 million invested in electric appliance manufacturers and another $55 million invested in the oil and coal companies which supply fuel for the polluting power plants. Many of these companies are also involved in water pollution, as are the other metals, mining and chemical companies in which Yale has invested $33 million. In all, Yale has $142.7 million invested in industries that pollute our air and water. This is 28.5% of Yale's total investments, and the list may not be complete. Clearly Yale is profiting from the continuing pollution by these industries, and ,thus the University has a firm stake in the continued lack of pollution control. Yale also invests in two companies which make pesticides and herbicides, which contribute to pollution.

Who is Responsible?

Who is responsible for Yale's policy towards the environment, for its pollution, and its connection with the industries which are destroying our land, our air and our water? It is the men of Yale Corporation who decide the basic policy of the University. Many of them are also executives of some of the industries that are responsible for the damage that is being done to our country. These companies have muchto lose in the drive for clean air and clean water. Yale Corporation, then, can hardly claim to be neutral with respect to the environmental crisis.

Here are some members of the Yale Corporation, as of 1969:

Joseph Dilworth is a director of Chrysler Corp. and a director of a large, polluting chemical company, Diamond Shamrock Co. He is a former director of a steel company that does most of its business with the auto industry.

Spencer Moseley is a director of the Container Corporation of America, the nation's *largest manufacturer of paperboard products. His company owns 15 paper mills which* are doing to rivers around the country what the paper mills in New Haven are doing to the Mill River.

Edwin Blair is a director of Norton Simon, Inc., whose subsidiaries, Canada Dry, United Can Co. and Glass Container Corp. are all producing the non-returnable glass bottles and aluminum cans which are littering the landscape and filling up dumps. He is a former director of a paper company and a coal company, both of which are active in air and water pollution.

John Hay Whitney is also in the paper business as a director of the Great Northern Paper Company and is the chairman of the Board of the nation's largest sulfur producer, Freeport Sulfur. Freeport is one of the largest sources of air and water pollution in Louisiana.

Frederick Adams is on the Board of Directors of both the American Potash and Chemical Company and the Vanadium Corporation Corporation of America; these are both industries that are involved in water pollution.

William W. Scranton is another Yale trustee who made it into the paper business, as a director of Scott Paper Co. All the paper companies mentioned are serious air and water polluters, and in general are very resistant to control.

Thomas Watson and **John Hay Whitney** are trustees of the International Rowing Course Foundation, the group that wants to turn two of New Haven's parks into a Yale Rowing Course.

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ENVIRONMENTAL OFFENSIVE

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777-5317

U.I. Challenged

by Cheryle Johnston

Young anti-pollution activists carried their battle into a center of business power on April 21. Members of the Environmental Offensive holding proxies for stock of the United Illuminating Company went to the annual stockholders' meeting and presented a series of demands that the company cease polluting New haven's air.

The scene was like a meeting from two different worlds. The stockholders and officials of the company were older, dressed in standard business clothes, obviously surburban, andwell-versed in the legal procedures of corporate board meetings. The anti-pollution activists were younger , informally dressed, and there to present demands rather than to handle business as usual. Outside, supporters of the pollution demands maintained a picket line around the U.I. headquarters.

The Environmental Offensive pointed out that U.I. produces 42 tons of poisonous gases per day, over 25% of the city's total air pollution according to the Conn. Health Department. It has been estimated that U.I.'s pollution costs New Haveners between six and twelve million dollars a year in additional health and medical costs (due to lung diseases) and soiling and corrosion of buildings and equipment.

Five written demands were presented:

1. The immediate termination of all environmental pollution, with the cost to be borne by those who have profited from polluting our air and water until now. We demand that U.I. suspend immediately dividend payments until all pollution is ended.

2. In order to make U.I. responsible to all the people of New Haven, we demand that U.I. submit any plans for alterations capital construction, and expansion to a binding referendum of the citizens of New Haven and Bridgeport.

3. As citizens of New Haven we demand that U.I. immediately stop all advertising of electricity. The result of this advertising is to artificially increase the demand for electric power. This results in increased pollution and an excuse for plant expansion. We demand that U.I. provide true public service advertising about the environmental degradation that results from power production.

4. We demand that residential consumers of electricity pay a rate no higher than the lowest rate enjoyed by commercial and industrial users of electricity.

5. As residents of polluted New Haven, we demand that U.I. become a true public utility. with all the profits applied to the improvement of service, reduction of the cost of electricity, and the payment of a decent wage to U.I. workers.

There was never a chance to present all of the written demands in the stockholders' meeting itself. Many of those listed on the proxies were denied entranceto the meeting. The three who were allowed into the meeting found that the order of business did not have a place for consumer demands and questions of pollution. Instead, they had to wait for the questions and answers part of the meeting. When the fifth demand was mentioned, that U.I. become a true public utility with profits applied to service and wages, the stockholders responded with laughter.

Picketers outside met with favorable reaction. One man, identifying himself as a railroad worker, refused to cross the picket line to pay his light bill. Passing policemen were sympathetic, to the point of suggesting other companies which should also be forced to stop polluting. One U.I. employee pointed out, however, that the picket lines set up by striking U.I. workers last year had been much more effective.

Continued from page 6

Spread Eagle

The Nixon administration came up with a two part solution: 1) Vietnamization and 2) Expansion of the war into other Southeast Asian countries. Vietnamization would change the skin color of the dead soldiers. This would make the war more tolerable for Americans and give the U.S. government more time. Expanding the war into Laos and Cambodia would isolate the National Liberation Front, deprive them of supplies and make it harder for them to resist the U.S. saturation bombing, bombings kept secret from the American public. Though we had massive bombings of Laos, expansion of the war did not work out as planned by the U.S. Two hundred American military personnel have been killed. Two hundred pilots have been reported missing. Five hundred planes costing $1.6 million each have been lost. And the forces of the U.S. and the government of Laos have lost control over the strategic Plain of Jars. The revolutionary forces in Laos even pushed westward to within ½ mile of the Long Chen military base where the CIA has equipped and trained 35,000 mercenary soldiers. Protection of this military base is vital to the U.S.-CIA military effort in Laos.

The U.S. government says that all the fighting in Laos is due to foreign forces in that country. The government doesn't mention the thousands of Laotians who earn only 70 cents a day and have long lived in misery. They are willing to fight for their own revolution to win a decent life.

Cambodia

In Cambodia the military government under General Lon Nol which overthrew Prince Sihanouk is meeting growing opposition from people who want to reestablish an independent neutralist country. The American press has tried to make it seem as if "foreign" (i.e. NLF and North Vietnamese) forces are the only people in Cambodia trying to establish an independent democratic country. If it weren't for the NLF in Cambodia, the U.S. government argues, the Cambodian people would be happy to have a military dictatorship supported by the United States. But even the **New Haven Register** reported a different story. The **Register** said that the guerilla forces in Cambodia who are trying to establish a socialist country are not NLF but Cambodians who support Sihanouk. The **Register** reported on March 30, "The government pictures much of this (violence) as Viet Cong activity. Typical was the report by the government that three columns of Viet Cong troops were marching on Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Instead, first hand evidence gathered in the provinces shows that organized Sihanouk supporters are ready to march on the capital, not Viet Cong troops."

If the U.S. were to expand its war into Cambodia, it would create more antiwar protests in the U.S. and separate the United States even more from countries throughout the world. But to isolate the NLF, the U.S.-Saigon forces had to expand their war into Cambodia and violate that country's neutrality. America's clever policymakers were in a bind. They reached a "compromise" as reported in the **New York Times** (April 17, 1970): "Thus a compromise was reached. The South Vietnamese were allowed to undertake harassing attacks [into Cambodia]. But both the United States and the South Vietnamese would continue to state publicly their respect for Cambodian neutrality." When in doubt, lie.

To win in Vietnam, the United States has tried to expand the war into Laos and Cambodia. To fight a war on three fronts is much more difficult than dealing with only one country. When the French tried to defeat the Vietnamese before 1954, they had a similar plan. The plan of the French Commanding General Navarre was to isolate the Vietnamese by expanding the war to Laos. The French followed Navarre's plan. However, unable to fight on two fronts at once, the French were powerless to defend their base at Dien Bien Phu, located close to the Laotian border. Several months after the French expanded the war to Laos, they were defeated at Dien Bien Phu. History will repeat itself. Five years ago the United States could not defeat the Vietnamese on the battlefields of South Vietnam. So the U.S. government expanded the war to North Vietnam and started bombing there. That didn't work. So they ordered the bombing and invasion of Laos and Cambodia. Not only will this plan fail, but it will also make U.S. defeat in Indochina final. Nixon's April 20 speech said that the mighty American Eagle has never lost a war. He was wrong. The Eagle has lost the war in Vietnam. But because of technology it has not had to admit defeat—yet.

I bet that's how they plan to get us out of Vietnam. They're going to send us all to Thailand.

Continued from page 10

Indictments

The court order also stated that the lawyers and anyone else officially connected with the case cannot make any public statements about the case. This came after months in which the police and prosecution illegally fed their side of the story to the newspapers, whose front pages made many people assume without doubt the Panthers were guilty.

The court officials have begun to make 100,000 dollars worth of alterations in the courthouse building that make it more like a jail than a courthouse. They bulletproofed the windows and built a police barracks in the basement. Policemen patrol the courthouse halls in plainclothes, wearing juror buttons and guard the door in uniform. All this sets a mood that many people think will make it impossible for the Panthers to get a fair trial.

Conditions Bad

According to reports from the defendants, the conditions of their imprisonment have been bad. They have been denied reading materials and the right to ahve friends visit them. They often undergo solitary confinement. Rose Smith reported being beaten in February by guards at Niantic State Prison.

The Panthers who now face trial are Bobby Seale, National Chairman of the Black Panther Party, Lonnie McLucas; Ericka Huggins, George Edwards, Margaret Hudgins, Rose Smith, Landon Williams and Rory Hithe.

On May 5 the final set of pre-trial motions for the New Haven Panthers will begin. Featured at this time will be motions to rule out certain evidence on the grounds that it was illegally seized.

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Groups Protest Trial

Activities at Yale

On April 22, the Yale Divinity School Committee to Defend the Rights of the Black Panthers held a teach-in for religious leaders in the New Haven area. Over 200 clergymen, divinity students, and faculty members attended.

The trial has also stirred intense activity among Yale students. They are interested in helping to defend the rights of the Panthers and making Yale more responsible to the needs of the New Haven community and Yale's own employees. In order to devote themselves to studying the issues and to prepare the campus to receive thousands of visitors over the May 1 weekend, the students have called for a suspension of regular classes.

Hundreds of students have been canvassing the community to explain the reasons for the suspension of classes and to try to encourage a fair climate of opinion in New Haven for the Panthers facing trial. On April 23, the Yale faculty voted to endorse a voluntary suspension of classes.

On April 24, the Faculty Senate of Albertus Magnus College recommended that classes at that college continue but that students be freed of their usual obligations, such as term paper deadlines and tests.

Yale President Kingman Brewster, in a speech to the Yale faculty before their vote on suspension, said that he was "appalled and ashamed that things should have come to such a pass that I am skeptical of the ability of black revolutionaries to achieve a fair trial anywhere in the United States."

At New Haven College a moratorium on classes has been called by the Black Student Union and the Student Alliance. Speakers and discussions on the Panthers are being planned.

May Day Demonstration

The first event scheduled for Friday, May 1, by the New Haven Panther Defense Committee is a press conference by members of the Black Panther Party and some of the defendants in the recent Chicago Conspiracy trial. During the afternoon rock bands will perform on the Green, and films will be shown in the Yale Law School auditorium. At four o'clock, members of the Black Panther Party, David Dellinger, Abbie Hoffman, and other national figures will address a rally on the Green. In the evening there will be speakers, music and films in many of the colleges at Yale.

On Saturday there will be a series of workshops dealing with the Panther case and Yale's role in the community. The final event will be a second rally on the Green to be addressed by Artie Seale, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Chairman of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and successor to Martin Luther King, John Froines and Jerry Rubin of the Chicago case, and French author Jean Genet.

Many of the people attending the events wish to protest not only what they see as a nationwide attempt by federal, state and local authorities to crush the Black Panther Party but also the repression of activists in the antiwar movement. John Froines, here to work full time on the Panther case, said on April 23: "What freed us in Chicago was people; contrary to myth it is the people across the country who are the highest court. We need people here, and we think a peaceful rally will best serve the Panthers' interests."

Ralph Abernathy explained on April 20 his reasons for participating in the weekend: "The reason I have left the South to come to New York is because Southern-style justice has come to New Haven."

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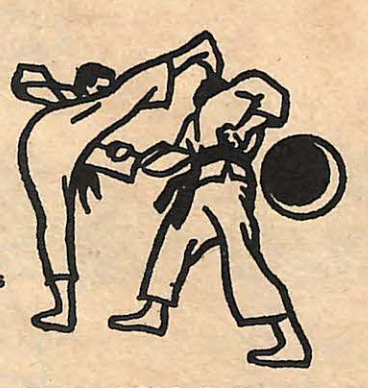

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Continued from page 11

Legal Aid: on thin ice

case and are just concerned with the result."

While this may be true, it seems difficult to understand how white, middle-class lawyers—however well intentioned—are going to understand the problems of black and Puerto Rican people. There are no full-time black lawyers working for LAA now, although there have been in the past. Only one woman, Margaret Freeston works full-time, at the Legion Avenue office, and another works part time downtown.

Margaret Freeston is working with the Hill-Dwight Day Care Center and with the Junta for Progressive Action, which is concerned with Spanish-speaking people all over New Haven. Much of LAA's work with groups has been in helping them to get incorporated for tax purposes and for the sharing of responsibility.

"I've only been here for nine months and most of my work has been with the welfare department or with consumer problems," says Freeston. "Some people do come to the office just to talk or get advice. There are referals from redevelopment. More community education is needed with community people helping each other about such things as how to deal with merchants."

On April 4, 40 people in the Legion Avenue area were interviewed. Only half had heard of LAA. Five knew about the local office because they had used it. All were women who had gotten a divorce. *Peggy Buzinsky, the mother of two and a welfare recipient says,* "I heard about LAA from friends, and the people were nice. I feel that I can go there any time to talk about problems that are social or legal, like with my landlord." "You have to push, though, or the problem won't get solved," added Joyce Watson, another welfare recipient.

Stuart Bear is one of the twenty lawyers at LAA. He has been with LAA for almost two years and has divorces, bankruptcies and evictions as his most pressing problems at the downtown office.

"It's depressing to see so many people living marginally and the government unable to solve the problems, "says Bear. "About 80% of our clients are returnees, like people who are being evicted for the second time. The credit society hurts those unable to increase their salary. Through inflation and being fooled, people go deeper into debt.

"Most of our cases are social, not legal. We help people solve their own problems in a basically oppressive society, but we aren't solving society's problems. One of our functions is to point out society's problems."

Because of the large caseload at LAA, a Law Reform section was formed headed by Ken Kreiling and Bill Clendenon. At least half of their time is spent with welfare cases. The law now permits a landlord to get his rent directly from welfare officials without regard to his upkeep of the apartment. Law Reform seeks to have the rent withheld by the court until the landlord has made needed repairs.

"We're trying to build up source material for people in the local centers," says Kreiling. "Recently we brought suit against the city and the state highway commission for not properly relocating people displaced by Route 34."

Steve Floman has been the local lawyer at the West Rock center. Says Yvonne Morant, Director of the West Rock Development and Planning Program and a CPI worker for three years, "LAA lawyers are mixing legal work with with community work. It's very important that LAA lawyers do social as well as legal work. This will help people to overcome their distrust for lawyers and not hesitate to go see them about anything. Steve is welcome at any of our meetings."

West Rock encompases Brookside, Rockview, McConoughny Ter., and West Hills. Last year, with LAA help, the people there were able to keep the Housing Authority from raising rents.

Floman, who worked in the downtown office for two years before going to West Rock, remarks, "I like the neighborhood office better. You see many of the same people and there is a feeling of a community. Downtown there was no continuity, just a sea of faces."

All neighborhood offices have a community worker as well as one or more lawyers, a secretary and some Yale Law students doing research and interviewing. All of the community workers have been trained by the Dixwell Legal Rights Association, whose director, Ruth O. Robinson says, "We have a three month training program. Two weeks in office training learning case-work, filing, history, and politics and then we send them into the field." All lawyers interviewed spoke highly of the community workers, who usually knew the people who lived in the neighborhood. DLRA usually sends about twenty people a week to LAA for help.

"We've been doing a lot of educating about the law," says Robinson, "but this doesn't do much good when people learn that the law is stacked against them, like in a landlord-tenant relationship. For example, tenants must post an appeals bond equal to their back rent. But, if they can't pay the rent, then how are they going to post the bond?

"I really can't see any meaningful change coming about through the law," continues Robinson. "The meaningful changes that have come about have been through violence because that's what this country seems to understand best. I can't get too excited about the bar and judges and stuff. The judges are just sitting there, part of the same society, and the law to a large extent has been an instrument of oppression. The few legislative acts that have been passed have been miserably enforced. So I just don't see the law as bringing about any great change—maybe a little scrap here and there, but that's not going to get to the problem. You've got to move on all fronts at once."

Most of the people interviewed described LAA services as "band-aid" type work. This referred to the fact that the LAA service was just providing a temporary aid to people's problems, but wasn't getting at their source, wasn't making sure that they wouldn't occur again. It seems likely that within the present legal and economic system, deep-rooted change is impossible.

Recently, John Waxman of the Legion Ave. office was saying, "LAA is not a cure for society's ills—we must educate. We are giving poor people confidence in a system that is basically middle and upper class and is stacked against them. Lawyers and judges don't know how to deal with ghetto problems.

"I don't see LAA as an ultimate force for change, but maybe it can hold things together until something else can be worked out."

M*A*S*H: Misplaced Merriment

M*A*S*H,a film in color, produced by Ingo Preminger, directed by Robert Altman, screenplay by Ring Lardner,Jr., with Donald Sutherland and Elliott Gould. 20th Century Fox. Playing at Showcase Cinema 3, Orange.

by Julie Burton and Renee Rocklin

M*A*S*H takes place three miles from the front in the Korean War. An emergency medical team has all the comforts, and none of the restrictions, of home. They have sex and poker and booze and football, they even have a token marijuana joint. There's lots of gore and lots of laughs. It's anti-military but pro-war. All in the Great American Tradition.

Dr. Hawkeye and his friends are supposed to be attractive,sympathetic, no-bullshit guys, trying to make the best of a bad situation. They brilliantly undermine all military decorum and turn their medical unit into a free-wheeling summer camp for sex-starved adults;

But in the process the hip anti-heroes (all in the name of humor) ridicule, exploit and *attack Asians, Blacks, clergy and every woman in sight. They dope up a young Korean boy in an attempt to prevent his induction* – so they can keep him around to wash his socks and mix their martinis (for the price of a Playboy or two). Blacks are brawn to be manipulated by white brains, and nurses are "bods" whose function is "to keep their tits out of the surgeons' way" at the operating table but at their disposition any other hour of the day or night.

The blood-spattered scenes in the operating room clumsily recreate what Joseph Heller said in Catch-22: "Man is matter" and matter is messy. The callousness which the surgeons display toward those torn bodies -- a calousness which the audience soon adopts -- illustrates the psycholgically brutalizing aspects of war. Grafting these scenes onto the carefree world of the M*A*S*H surgical team does not produce an anti-war film. It does not produce an anti-war film because the "pleasures" that war offers in this film far outweigh its horrors.

Ironically, the only real battle scene takes place on the football field, where tactics and stakes are carefully calculated and where all ethics are sacrificed for victory. The war itself, on the other hand, is only a game. It is sometimes serious,sometimes hilarious, but always -- as the familiar voice over the loudspeaker points out at the end – as unreal as a Hollywood movie, in the Great American Tradition of course.

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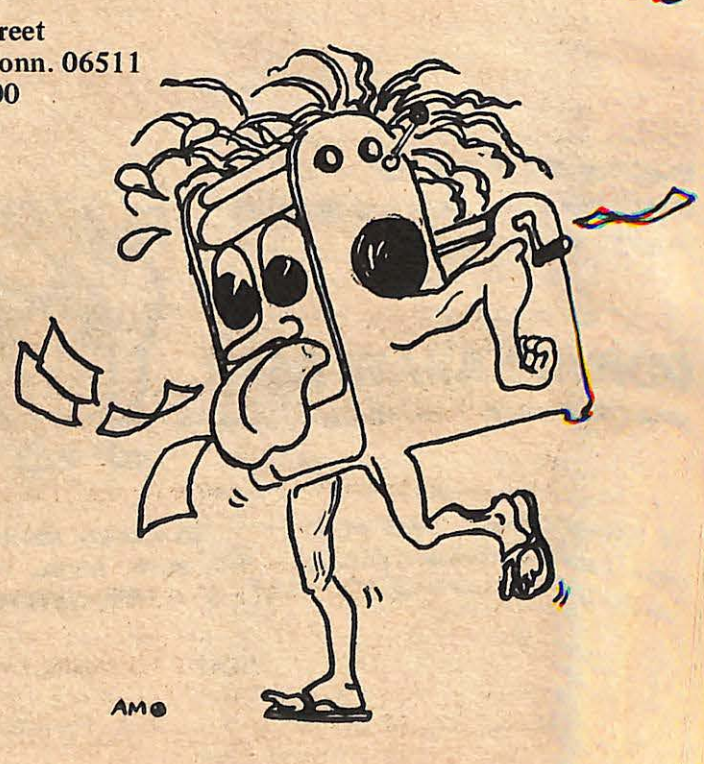

Karate for Self-Defense

There is probably no greater disservice to an individual than the creation of false confidence in his ability to defend himself. The current emphasis on self-defense and the tendency of people to turn to any quick, supposedly sure-fire method has created this situation because too many defense instructors simply do not understand what they are doing.

Karate is unquestionably the most effective form of self-defense simply because it developed from an oppressed weaponless group of people and has remained flexible in its formation. It is the science of using the body as a weapon and defense mechanism. In the United States many styles have lost their original scope.

For example, Okinawan styles utilize some weapons in training. Weapons were used by people at the time of the formation of karate, but had nothing to do with it. Few people ever had these weaponsaccessible to them in time of need.

On the other hand, Korean stylists have become almost completely tournament oriented. This means that they are styling their form of fighting to take advantage of rules set down for competition, which is alright for sport, but is not self-defense. People trained with the pseudo-forms of Karate are deluded about their ability to defend themselves.

Ground Rules

Occupational or social obligations may bring you into situations of open confrontation, at which time one should react with this well-learned set of ground rules:

1. **Avoid physical violence as much as possible maintaining an attitude of self-confidence (not cockiness).**
Note : A little understanding and show of sincere concern of your adversary's situation can often avert disaster.

2. **If physical violence is inevitable, never underestimate your assailant.**

3. **An opening attack can be blocked, but for the inexperienced, side or back-stepping to avoid the attack is most advisable.**

4. **In close quarters twisting or turning the body as a whole unit is the best way to free yourself from grasp.**

5. **Regardless of your tactic you must maintain strong footing and balance to protect yourself properly; be able to move; and to provide strength for your counterattack.**

6. **Do not oppose superior power with power. Sidestep or harmonize your body to take advantage of the opponent's weight or strength. (This will usually require some background knowledge of self-defense).**

Women practice up on karate.

7. ***Have a target in mind when you attack.*** **If you strike aimlessly ,you can hit someone many times without having any immediate effect; one carefully placed blow can stop an opponent.**

8. **Above all, use discretion to counterattack effectively. Use the degree of punishment befitting the situation. (Avoid brutality.)**

Offense

Prime target areas for offense are:

1. **The center of the head (regardless of direction viewed).**
2. **The neck from any side.**
3. **The line about three inches above the waist from any side.**
4. **The groin area from front or back.**
5. **The knees from any side.**

Numbers two and four should be avoided except when in extreme danger.

A general rule in attacking is to use the tightly clenched fist for striking above the chest and the feet for striking below the chest.

Defense

Prime areas for defense are:

1. **The head; duck or block with arms.**
2. **The neck; from front pull chin down and use arms from any direction.**
3. **The body; use arms or raise knee in front of attacked areas which also prepares your kicking attack.**
4. **The groin; turn hips to put a leg in the way of the attack.**
5. **The knees, remain light on your feet so they can be moved quickly and easily. A firm stance is only necessary for strong counterattacks.**

This first in a series of articles on self-defense has been rather general; however, more specific information will appear in later issues. Anyone interested in various aspects of self-defense should write to **Modern Times.**

Events

May 8: Speech by General Hugh B. Hester, Strathcona Hall, 8 p.m., sponsored by Promoting Enduring Peace. General Hester (U.S. Army, ret.) has spoken out repeatedly against the war: "The president's 'Vietnamization' plan will not end the war. Even if this made possible the withdrawal of all U.S. military forces, it would not end or reduce U.S. responsibility for the war. The U.S. government would then be fighting the war by proxy. This is even more criminal and immoral." (Letter to **New York Times**, 4/9/70)

May 9: Concert, Mike Sand, violinist, at Sprague Hall (College and Wall Streets), 8:30 p.m. Heavy classics—Bach, Beethoven. For the Panthers, for the people. All welcome. Free. "It has been some days in preparation. A splendid time is guaranteed for all."

May 9: Lorraine Hansberry's **To Be Young, Gifted and Black**, special adaptation with Tina Sattin of the original N.Y. cast. Benefit performance for the Coalition for Defense of the Panthers, 8:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 620 Chapel St. Music and refreshments. Tickets $ 7.50. Contact the Coalition, 425 College St.

The **EVENTS** *column will be a regular feature of* **Modern Times.** *If you have an announcement of an upcoming event – meeting, lecture, picnic, etc. – send it to : Modern Times, 441 Chapel Street, New Haven, Conn.*

Layoffs *Continued from page 1*

Decline in Buying Power

Unemployment will probably continue to increase over the next few months. Prices continue to rise at a rate of 5% to 6% a year.

The average worker takes home more dollars every year; but his dollars buy less now than they did five years ago. Higher prices and higher taxes have simply taken away all these wage increases. U.S. Department of Labor Statistics show clearly how the workers' buying power has shrunk.

Many strikes are occurring this year as workers attempt to catch up with the rising prices that have left them behind. Higher unemployment will make catching up very difficult.

Corporate Executives Prosper

Top corporation executives have kept up with inflation much better. One survey of chief executives found that their average income went up 9.1% in 1968 – to $336,045. Even counting inflation, they did far better than the average worker.

Avco On Strike

The strike at Avco has grown. On a April 23, the 500 technical and clerical workers in United Auto Workers (UA W) Local 376 went on strike. They joined the 3800 Avco production workers, member of UA W Local 1010, whose strike began the week before.

Both union's three year contracts have expired. Union officials report that the company's offers have been totally inadequate.

Wages are, of course, one major issue. Increases won in the last contract, three years ago, have been completely eaten away by inflation. Medical and pension benefits are also reported to be major issues.

In 1967, a strike by Avco workers was halted after one day by a federal government injunction issued under the Taft-Hartley Act.

BREAD & ROSES COFFEEHOUSE

"Hearts starve as well as bodies;/ Give us bread, but give us roses!"

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NOON TO MIDNIGHT

MODERN TIMES

Post Office Blues

by a New Haven Postal Worker

This is the first of a series of first-hand accounts about people's jobs.

Because of the postal strike people now know that postal workers have problems like all other workers. The main issue in the strike was low wages. But wages is not the only issue for those of us who work at the Post Office. I'm going to talk about many of the bad conditions we work with. I'll begin with the job of substitute and work up.

The most under-rated employee in any Post Office is the substitute. To quote a statement from the Boston Region Bureau of Personnel: "They (subs) comprise an auxiliary work force...to take care of fluctuations in service needs." Actually, subs are employed so that the Post Office will not be required to pay regular employees overtime, while having someone to do the dirty jobs.

The work gets done—which is all that the government is interested in—but the regulars receive little overtime to supplement their poor wages, and the subs must work six days to make 40 hours. The Post Office will not admit that it actually needs more laborers, not an auxiliary work force. What makes conditions worse for the sub is that he or she has virtually no rights and can be made to do any kind of job, even if it is not in his particular craft.

When a sub finally becomes a regular employee, his or her reward is a ten percent paycut. Also, if the employee is working on either of the day shifts, he or she is moved to the night shift. As a regular an employee makes $6142 per year. For the first five years, there is an 11 cent increase each year. This means 11 raises in 21 years. These add up to a little over one dollar. So, after 21 years of service with the Post Office, an employee can expect to earn $8400.

As of July, 1969, the Post Office was one and one half years behind industry in wages. President Nixon has said: "...the government has an obligation to insure each of its employees fair treatment so long as each lives up to his or her obligations. The government is committed by law to a pay policy of comparability. That means pay levels should correspond to those in business and industry." If the government is committed by law, then who first has broken the law—the government or the strikers?

There are no merit raises in the Post Office and very little chance for advancement. Most workers leave the Post Office doing the same job they started with.

Seniority is a strict rule in the Post Office. The person employed the longest gets an open job if he wants it. Recently a person with just a few years in the Post Office was given a higher paying job over a man who had quite a few years of service. The reason given was that the man who got the job had two years of college, while the other man had none. I heard that the man who had gotten the job just happened to have given a large contribution to the Democratic Party.

Postal employees have to pay almost all the costs of their medical benefits and insurance plan. The government has never contributed much money towards the payment of these costs. The government also has its own retirement plan which costs the employee more than social security.

One of the biggest grievances of postal workers is that Congress and the President make all of the decisions about postal salaries. Postal unions are not allowed to bargain for higher wages and a strike by government employees is punishable by a fine or imprisonment. Because of the recent strike, unions are finally getting the opportunity to speak on behalf of all postal employees for better wages and working conditions.

The working facilities are extremely poor in New Haven. All the locker rooms are in very bad shape. Last month in the men's locker room, a section of lockers fell over and seriously injured two men. There is no nurse on duty at night, though there is supposed to be one present at all times.

The women's locker room is just as bad. There are only 40 lockers for approximately 75 women. There is only one large table that seats about 12 people.

The toilet facilities are not any better. There are only two stalls. This is a disgrace when the number of female workers is taken into account. These facilities were established when women first started working in the Post Office. At that time there were few women, and though the number of female employees has increased greatly, the ladies' locker room hasn't been enlarged.

To add to the safety hazards, there is only one exit for leaving building in case of fire. The exit is in the rear of the building and is usually partially blocked by skids full of mail sacks. In the event of a fire, it is a great possibility that many people would not be able to get out of the building.

The heating problem, though not a serious safety hazard, makes life just a little more unbearable in the Post Office. On most weekends the heat is turned off completely. No judges, attorneys or supervisors work on weekends – only postal employees.

Our superintendent has a complete disregard for the rules on absences, even though they are clearly set down in the Postal Manual. He is constantly harassing people about sick time. If, in his opinion, an employee is abusing sick leave, he will place him or her on the doctor's certificate list. This means that a doctor's note is required for every absence. Most people on this four find themselves on this list at one time or another. The problem is that many times the supervisor will not accept the note that is brought in.

Annual leave (accumulated time for vacations and other personal reasons) is a joke on this tour. One can rarely obtain permission to use annual leave. There was one young man who requested A.L. because his car had broken down and he was waiting for the AAA to come and fix it. Before he was granted annual leave, he had to bring in a note from the AAA.

The union officials have brought charges against this particular superintendent many times, but nothing of consequence has ever been done. It takes months for the legal process of the Post Office to decide anything. When a case is decided in favor of the employee, which is rare, very little is said to the superintendent about it.

I am not trying to give the opinion that the New Haven Post Office is the worst in the country. I am sure that these conditions exist in many Post Offices throughout the United States. But these are deplorable situations and would never be tolerated in normal industry. Is it any wonder that postal employees have finally decided to STRIKE!

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